



Get Ready To Be Amazed | Shawn Johnson | 01.05.2025

Weekly Study

SHARE

As group members get settled, take a few minutes to check in with everyone and see how life is going. Share an exciting story from this week, your highs and lows, an answered prayer, or something you're struggling with. If someone is really struggling, rally the group around them and take a few moments to pray over them.

- **How was your Christmas break? Share any highs, lows, and updates with your group.**
- **What's one thing you want to leave behind in 2024? What's one thing about 2025 that you're looking forward to leaning into?**

GROW

Happy New Year! To kick off 2025, we're starting a brand-new series called *Get Ready*. Inspired by Joshua 1 & 3, Pastor Shawn reminds us that God has good plans for us, and because He loves us, he doesn't throw us into arenas if he knows we won't be able to thrive; that's why He goes to great lengths to prepare and equip us for what's to come, building our trust in Him every step of the way.

In Shawn's message, *Get Ready to be Amazed*, we are encouraged to shift our focus from what we can or cannot do to what God can and will do. Before stepping into the "good plans" God

has for us, we must first “get ready” for what lies ahead. This process can be challenging because God rarely reveals more than the first few steps we’re called to take, requiring us to trust Him with the bigger picture.

Because God loves us, he never throws us into situations that would destroy us. That’s why seasons of preparation are so essential. These seasons invite us to sit with God, listen, and reflect. In this sacred space, He gently reveals what we need to leave behind, creating room for the new things He has prepared. By letting go of the old, we gain the clarity and capacity to fully embrace the life He has lovingly designed for us.

Read Joshua 1:2-6, Psalm 109:103-107

- **Share any major takeaways from Shawn’s message.**
- **What is God asking you to “get ready” for as you look forward this year? Explain.**
- **Read the verses above. What sticks out to you? Explain.**
- **Why do you think God’s promises are detailed and extensive, but His instructions are vague? Explain.**

M O V E

In Joshua 3:5, he tells the Israelites, “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you” (NIV). Consecration simply means setting yourself apart from the common things of the world and filling your life with the uncommon things of God. We see this take place many times throughout the Bible, one of the most significant of which was Abram (Abraham) in Genesis. Before Abram could experience all of the promises God had for him, he had to separate himself not once, but three times within a short period of time from things that were both comfortable and familiar.

Read Genesis 12:1-4 NLT, Genesis 13:6-18 NLT

Oftentimes, we try to carry things from our old life with us as we step into something new, but Genesis 12 shows us that before we can “go” somewhere new, we must “leave” some things behind that don’t align with God’s plan for our lives.

- **What do you need to “leave” in 2024 so you can “go” to where God is calling you in 2025? Explain.**
- **Is there something you’ve had a hard time leaving behind while trying to step into something new? This could be a crutch, a vice, a person, a mindset, etc. Explain.**
- **Have you ever tried to leave old things behind so that you could step into something new, but something or someone followed you at no fault of your own, like how Lot followed Abram? Explain.**

Genesis 13 shows the consequences of old things following us into new seasons. Whether it's something we fail to let go of or something that follows us despite our best efforts, these things can prevent us from experiencing the fullness of God's promises. Lot was not meant to follow Abram, and because he did, Abram couldn't fully receive the blessings God had promised. However, Abram's faithfulness led him to separate himself from worldly distractions so that he could.

This story highlights the importance of setting ourselves apart from the world and trusting God's Word, as Shawn encouraged us to do. Lot "chose for himself" (Gen 13:11), leading to tragic consequences: his wife became a pillar of salt, and he and his daughters lived in a cave, trapped in sin.

In contrast, “after Lot departed, the Lord spoke to Abram” (Gen 13:14). Because Abram set himself apart, trusted God's Word, and acted in faith, God's promise to him (Gen 13:16) unfolded through his descendants—Isaac, Jacob, and the twelve tribes of Israel, culminating in the line of Judah, from which King David and ultimately Jesus descended.

- **How does the story of Lot and Abram relate to the challenges you’re facing today? Explain.**

- **What does it mean to you personally to 'consecrate yourself' as mentioned in Joshua 3:5 and actually take steps towards doing so like Abram did? Explain.**
- **How can we discern between our own plans and God's plans for our lives?**

P R A Y

How can you engage with God's Word more intentionally and consistently this year? What steps can you take, or things can you let go of to separate yourself from the distractions of the world, creating space for God to do new things in your life? A significant first step towards setting yourself apart is to join us for our 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting. If you're unsure about fasting, you can find more information [here](#). Take a few moments to pray and reflect on how God is inviting you to grow deeper in your relationship with Him. Then, share your thoughts and plans with your group.