

JUMP

- Sky Diving Experience
 - o How many of you would go skydiving? To me it was a great experience. Talk about the thrill of it all. (Use as an intro into the sermon.)
- For some of us jumping is fun for others it can be terrifying! Why the difference?
- Ladder illustration
 - o 2 Volunteers 1 Big 1 Small and Corban (4-year-old)
 - Have Corban (my son) climb on to the ladder and have him jump to me. He does it willfully and wants to continue to do it. Then have a big leader/student climb up on the ladder and tell them to jump to a small student. They won't. Why? Because the person catching them is smaller than them.
 - o Our biggest fear is that God is smaller than he says he is and won't actually catch us.
- But how do we Fight against that fear?
 - o We look at the faithfulness of God time and time and time again
- So that's what I want to do tonight; Throughout scripture God has asked people to Jump and is and will continue to ask people to jump, including you if you will listen.
- Some things take a long time and others are immediate, but all require faith and jumping
- Noah
 - o Genesis 6: build a boat because it's going to rain.
 - o Took anywhere from 25-75 years
- Abraham
 - o Genesis 22: sacrifice of Isaac, only son, at 100 years old and God asked him to sacrifice
- Moses
 - o Exodus 3: Go back and confront pharaoh
 - o 10 plagues again x10 then finally a change
 - o Crossing the Red Sea in Exodus 14 "Pick up your staff and raise your hand" and the waters split open. How crazy would you think this was?
- Joshua and Caleb
 - o Deuteronomy 1: They were wanting but everyone said no and they still stood up for what was right and God rewarded them for it.
- Rahab
 - o Joshua 2: The prostitute (God will use anyone no matter your story) protected the spies
- Joshua and the nation of Israel around Jericho
 - o Joshua 6: Walk around the city once a day for 6 days and on the 7th day walk around 7 times then blow your horns.
 - o Really God?
- Gideon

- Judges 6 and 7
- 7:2 “if I let you all fight the Israelites will boast and will say it's from their own strength
 - 32,000 to 135,000 (1:5), 10,000 to 135,000 (1:13.5), 300 to 135,000 (1:450). Look at the ratios that God won with.
 - With only torches and horns
- God said wait to be king and his jump was waiting
- Elijah
 - 1 Kings 18: Challenge the king and the god Baal
 - Death would ensue if he lost
- Nehemiah
 - Rebuild the wall, also ask for safe passage from the oppressing nation, and ask them to pay for it
 - Then God also provided a transport for him
- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego
 - Daniel 3: Don't bow down to the idol
- Peter
 - Jesus told him to step out of the boat
- Stephen
 - Acts 7: was stoned because he preached but was able to see God
- Peter
 - Preaches and was imprisoned and rescued by angels
- Paul
 - Preaches and was imprisoned in acts 16 and then led people to Jesus while in prison

- All of these people jumped and God provided
- God will ask you to jump; Do you trust him?
- Corban (4year old son) trusted that I would catch him and you saw the joy on his face
 - Let there be joy when you are living life for God
- The more you jump when God tells you, the more you will want to do it.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why did Corban jump so easily to me?
 - Are we that way with God?
 - Why is it easy or difficult to be?
2. Do you find it scary to Jump?
 - What is the fear in jumping?
3. Was there a certain story from scripture that stuck out to you? Why?
4. How does this look in your life?