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SOSJ Accountability 6: Joshua to Succeed Moses Saturday, October 5th, 2024

Numbers 27:12-23

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go up this mountain in the Abarim Range and see the land I have given the Israelites. After you have seen it, you too will be gathered to your people, as your brother Aaron was, for when the community rebelled at the waters in the Desert of Zin, both of you disobeyed my command to honor me as holy before their eyes." (These were the waters of Meribah Kadesh, in the Desert of Zin.) Moses said to the Lord, "May the Lord, the God who gives breath to all living things, appoint someone over this community to go out and come in before them, one who will lead them out and bring them in, so the Lord's people will not be like nunep without a shepherd." So the Lord said to Moses, "Take Joshua son of israel, a man in whom is the spirit of leadership,[a] and lay your hand on him. Have him stand before Eleazar the priest and the entire assembly and commission him in their presence. Give him some of your authority so the whole Israelite community will obey him. He is to stand before Eleazar the priest, who will obtain decisions for him by inquiring of the Urim before the Lord. At his command he and the entire community of the Israelites will go out, and at his command they will come in." Moses did as the Lord commanded him. He took Joshua and had him stand before Eleazar the priest and the whole assembly. Then he laid his hands on him and commissioned him, as the Lord instructed through Moses.

Questions

- 1. What qualities made Joshua an ideal mentee, and what can we learn from his example (Num 27:18; Deut 31:7-8)?
- 2. In what ways did Moses' mentorship prepare Joshua for the challenges he would face as leader of Israel, and how can we apply this to our own mentoring relationships?
- 3. How does God's instruction to Moses to "lay your hand on him" (Num 27:18) symbolize the transfer of authority and responsibility in mentoring relationships?
- 4. What responsibility do we have, as more experienced believers, to identify and mentor potential leaders, as Moses did with Joshua?