Getting It Right

If you aren't sure, do you tend to back away, hold steady, or push forward?

Read Joshua 8:1-35.

- 1. Why was Joshua fearful and discouraged (vs. 1)?
 - A. He had just suffered a terrible military defeat.
 - B. The people had talked about stoning him.
 - C. Sin the in the camp had led to the death of Israelite soldiers.
 - D. A small army had defeated his large army.
 - E. God was no longer with His people.
 - F. Joshua felt like an inadequate leader compared to Moses.
 - G. After an emotional high, there's often an emotional crash.
 - H. He prayed but God was silent.
 - I. Other.
- 2. What was the revised battle plan to conquer the town of Ai?
 - A. The same as the first one (Joshua 7:2-5).
 - B. Send more troops.
 - C. Deal with the enemy inside before dealing with the enemy outside.
 - D. Follow God's instructions.
 - E. Set up an ambush behind the city.
 - F. Lure the soldiers out by turning and fleeing.
 - G. Divert the Jordan River and flood them out of their town.
 - H. Make peace with the inhabitants of Ai.
 - I. Other.
- 3. Why did the Israelites defeat the people of Ai on the second try?
 - A. They hadn't tried hard enough the first time.
 - B. They had a better battle plan the second time.
 - C. Overconfidence leads to defeat.
 - D. Joshua got a fresh burst of courage.
 - E. God's plan worked.
 - F. They marched around the city seven times.
 - G. The people of Ai got lured out and left their city unprotected.
 - H. There was sin in the camp of Ai.
 - I. Other.

- 4. Why did God have the Israelites wipe out the whole town of Ai?
 - A. They were bad, bad people—like those in Jericho.
 - B. God is into genocide—intentionally killing a specific group of people.
 - C. The people of Ai had killed some of God's people.
 - D. The land belonged to the Israelites, not the Palestinians.
 - E. A time of judgment comes for everyone and every group.
 - F. God drew the line for them at that moment (Deuteronomy 7:16-26).
 - G. Many Christians have a real problem with Bible stories like this.
 - H. Other.
- 5. Why did Joshua build an altar to God on Mount Ebal (vs. 30)?
 - A. God told Joshua to do this.
 - B. Moses told Joshua to do this.
 - C. The Book of the Law had these instructions.
 - D. After the victory over Ai, it was time to worship Yahweh.
 - E. This further established Joshua as the new leader of Israel.
 - F. This kind of thing needs to be repeated or we forget.
 - G. Following God means you keep choosing right instead of wrong.
 - H. Other.
- 6. What was included in this covenant renewal?
 - A. Read God's law out loud so everyone hears it.
 - B. Offer sacrifices.
 - C. Worship God.
 - D. Make the covenant relationship with God binding.
 - E. Name the blessings for obeying and the curses for disobeying.
 - F. God and his law were in the center.
 - G. Everyone was included-men, women, children, foreigners.
 - H. Other.
- 7. What covenant have you made with God? How often should it be renewed?
- 8. What blessings come from obeying God? What curses come from disobeying God?