

Lesson 11
The Altar of Witness

Find positive and negative examples (with verses) of our five themes (implied or in action) in Joshua 22.

Every Place the Sole of Your Foot Treads, I Have Given You

Positive

Negative

No One Will Be Able to Stand Before You

Positive

Negative

Be Strong and Courageous

Positive

Negative

Be Careful to Do According to All the Law

Positive

Negative

The Law Shall Not Depart from Your Mouth/Meditate on It Day and Night

Positive

Negative

Thought Questions

1. Why do you think this story is recorded in the book? How would it have benefited the book's original readers? Also consider 2 Kings 23:8-9.
2. Based on Joshua 22:28 and 22:10, what procedural mistake did the Transjordan tribes make in setting up this altar as a witness between themselves and their kin across the Jordan?
3. What applications do you think we can draw from this story about our responsibility to correct individual Christians and/or other congregations? Look at Matthew 18:15-16, Acts 5:8, Acts 15:1-6, and Galatians 6:1.
4. What applications should we draw from this story about the ways we try to do good things—that is, the form those actions take? Consider 1 Corinthians 8:9-11.
5. How does Phinehas describe what the Transjordan tribes have done for the rest of Israel in 22:31? What should this teach us about our attempts to correct and help others?
6. What are some things you see people do that you know are not wrong, and perhaps are beneficial to them, but that make you uncomfortable somehow? Based on this story, create a plan for dealing with one of these situations.