

## Chapter 8

***Getting Settled***

Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God, is with you wherever you go.

*Joshua 1:9*

**To the Parent:**

In chapter 8 your child learned to:

- Identify important figures in the conquest of the land and the period of the judges, and what they did
- Connect leadership of God's people with the divine calling and God-given gifts
- Enumerate ways that he or she can remain faithful to God's covenant.

The conquest of the land is seen by biblical authors as the work of God. Only by the power of God does the combination of military strategy, heroic struggle, personal ingenuity, and charismatic leadership allow Israel to take possession of the Promised Land and dwell there securely, as God's People. With their entry into the land comes a fresh need for decision and commitment on the part of the people.

The biblical writers of the books of Joshua and Judges saw faithfulness to God as the key to victory in their conquest of the land. In the same way, they saw their setbacks as a result of unfaithfulness. While we cannot equate military victory with God's blessing, we can still admire in these stories a kind of inspired leadership, which looks to God for direction, and shows courage in the face of overwhelming opposition.

**With Your Child:**

1. Talk with your child about how you ask for direction from God in difficult times.
2. In Baptism, we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Take a moment to ask the Holy Spirit to help you in your daily life.
3. Read about the story of Ruth on the Review and Explore page.