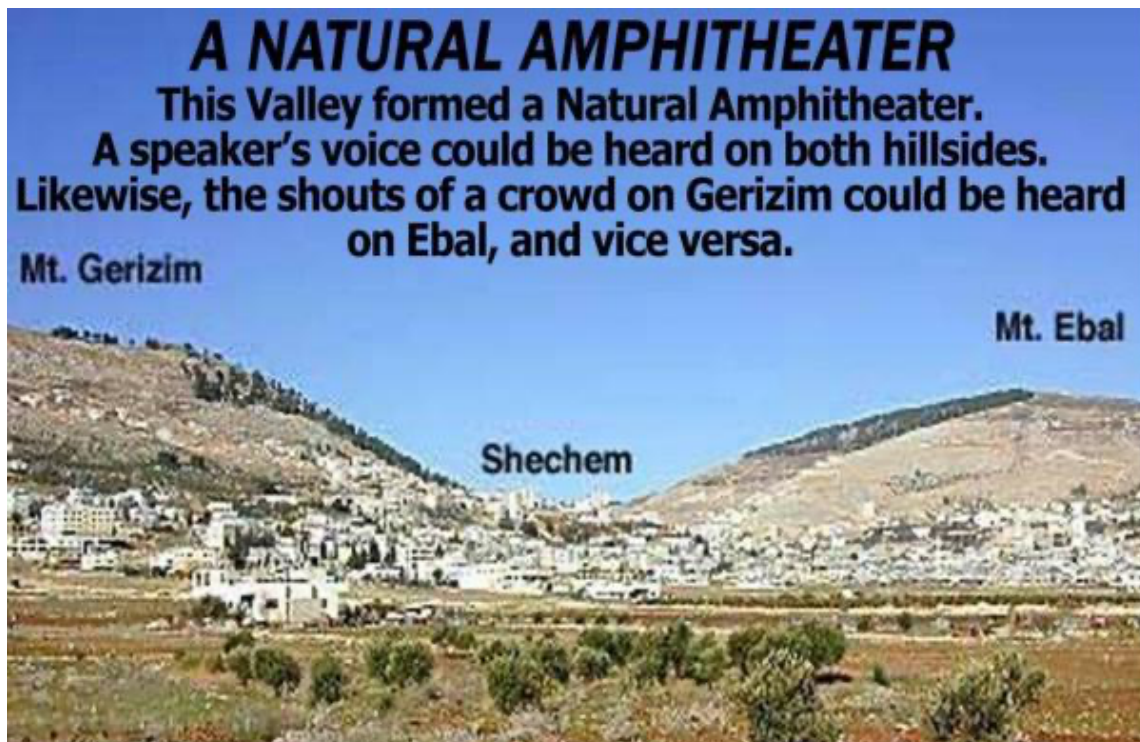


Joshua 8:30-9

Joshua 8:30-35

1. When does your whole family get together? Where?
2. In Deuteronomy 27-28, Moses commanded the children of Israel to come to the mountain, build an altar, and sacrifice to the LORD, and read the Law. Why do you think the children and sojourners were included in this covenant renewal ceremony?
3. Joshua built an altar of uncut stones. What is the goal of using uncut stones which no man has wielded an iron tool?



Read Joshua 9

1. Why did the other city-states start to unite against Joshua and Israel?
2. Are you surprised when you hear of an enemy that is set on coming against you?
3. What about the people of Gibeon? How would you have reacted if you had been a king in that area?
4. What ruse did the people of Gibeon use to trick Joshua and the Israelites?
5. Do you find yourself naïve, quick to believe everything and everyone you see? How can we be discerning without being overly cautious?
6. An enemy will figure out how to say something that you want to hear but mean something else? How do you determine whether people are telling the truth or leaving something out? (Proverbs 15:5)
7. Even though others do not say what they mean and mean what they say, how you get the strength to rise above and have integrity with your own words?

8. The hastiness of Israel is signaled by the note that they “did not inquire of the Lord.” (14) Who is in charge in negotiating the treaty?

9. What did the Israelites do when they realized they had been tricked?

10. The people grumble against their leaders (18). This is a similar description of what the people often did with Moses (Exodus 16:2,7). When people are grumbling, what is the best way for leadership to restore trust?

11. How did Joshua finally deal with the Gibeonites (22-23)?

12. When you have been purposefully deceived by someone, what was your reaction?

13. Even strong godly leaders will make mistakes, what is a good way to hold a leader accountable and what would be a poor way to hold a leader accountable?

14. The story of the Israelites’ oath and treaty with the Gibeonites and their covenant relationship with God that has provided them the Promised Land is a tension that occupies an important place in the story of Joshua. It will not be lost on the people that this story comes as a sequel to that of Achan. There is tension between a concept of a

people descended from Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and a people that welcome Rahab and Gibeon marks the book of Joshua.

a. Is this tension resolved successfully by Joshua? (24:19)

b. How do we pursue our vocations amid the imperfections of life, including the consequences of disobedience and compromise?