

## *Connect Group Notes*

*6 July 2026*

On Sunday Chris spoke about the conquest passages in Joshua.

See Joshua 6:21, 11:21-23 and 13:1

We wrestle with these passages as we try to reconcile the God we know in Jesus, versus the God who seems to condone genocide.

Chris talked about how ancient people told war stories and why the moral context of Canaan matters.

Ultimately, we need to read Joshua through Jesus. When we see God through Jesus, we realise He's patient, just and more merciful than we realise.

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- Sunday's message invites us not to avoid Joshua's hard passages. What part of these conquest narratives creates the most tension or discomfort for you personally, and why?
  - How does understanding ancient hyperbolic war rhetoric (e.g., "left none remaining") change the way you read Joshua's descriptions of total destruction?
  - The sermon emphasises that judgement came after centuries of patience and was moral, not ethnic. How does that shape your view of God's justice, not just in this context but in our here and now?

- What difference does it make to read Joshua through the lens of Jesus -  
- the second Joshua who absorbs judgement rather than directs it?
- After hearing this message, what helps you trust God's goodness even  
in the parts of Scripture that feel hardest to understand?
- Where have you experienced God's patience in your life, and what is  
one practical way you can respond to it this week?

*PRAY – Spend time praying for and with each other*