

Key References:

Joshua 3:14-16 (NIV)

¹⁴ So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them. ¹⁵ Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water's edge, ¹⁶ the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, [...] . So the people crossed over opposite Jericho.

"This isn't a time for us to go marching to the beat of our own drum. We don't want to go rushing out to figure this all out, thinking that we've got all the answers. This is actually a time to seek God, and make sure that we're following Him. Because he himself is leading us." – Paul MacMunn

Deuteronomy 31:7-8 (NIV)

⁷ Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the presence of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the LORD swore to their ancestors to give them, and you must divide it among them as their inheritance.

⁸ The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

Joshua 3:5 (NIV)

⁵ Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you."

Joshua 3 tells the story of the Israelites crossing the river Jordan. What do you remember Paul saying about why that would be challenging for them? What happened in Joshua 3? Why did they have to cross the river?

1 – GOD IS LEADING

Throughout this period of Moses, Joshua and the Israelites God was constantly leading them though seemingly impossible situations. What can these accounts teach us today? What are the rivers that our community or you are facing right now?

Read Deuteronomy 31:7-8. Why don't we need to be afraid? How should we strong and courageous in these days?

2 - HOLINESS MAKES WAY FOR THE MIRACULOUS

Read Joshua 3:5. What about God's character make Him want to do amazing things? Who gets the glory when God moves? What doors do you think God could be opening in these times?

Look up the definition of "consecrate". Why did they have to do this? Since Jesus has already made us holy Paul said for us; "consecration is affirming the call on your life to be holy and setapart." Why then, and how, should consecrate ourselves?

3 - PACK INTENTIONALLY

Paul reminded us that in life there are "key moments of transition for us" like here in Joshua 3. Looking into your future what key spiritual things should you be "packing" for your journey? What baggage should you get rid of that's slowing you down?

How would you describe your next season?

4 - INHERITANCE IS WAITING FOR US

How would you describe what a Christian's inheritance is? What is the only thing we can bring to Heaven with us? Why is it important to keep our eyes on inheritance in this time?

Additional References:

Joshua 3:3-6 (NIV)

³ giving orders to the people: "When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the Levitical priests carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it. ⁴ Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before. But keep a distance of about two thousand cubits between you and the ark; do not go near it." ⁵ Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you." ⁶ Joshua said to the priests, "Take up the ark of the covenant and pass on ahead of the people." So they took it up and went ahead of them.

Exodus 33:12-14 (NIV)

¹² Moses said to the LORD, "You have been telling me, 'Lead these people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, 'I know you by name and you have found favor with me.' ¹³ If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people." ¹⁴ The LORD replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."

Deuteronomy 31:7-8 (NIV)

⁷ Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the presence of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the LORD swore to their ancestors to give them, and you must divide it among them as their inheritance.

⁸ The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."

Joshua 1:5-6 (NIV)

⁵ No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. ⁶ Be strong and courageous, because you will

lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them.

Joshua 3:14-16 (NIV)

¹⁴ So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them. ¹⁵ Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water's edge, ¹⁶ the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (that is, the Dead Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho.