

SERIES: LESSONS FOR LIFE FROM GOD'S SERVANT, JOSHUA

Lesson #3:– “God Will Provide a Way”

Joshua 3-4

Announcements and opening prayer



Connect: an opportunity for people to immediately interact and connect with each other; icebreaker/attention getters. **Icebreaker:** What are some of the obstacles you have faced in life that have kept you from getting to where you believe God wants you to be?

Question: What was the miraculous journey of the Apostle Paul that God orchestrated to lead Him to who he became?

Transition: In writing to Ephesus Paul sings the praises of God because he had lived out the fact that God can do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine according to His power that is at work within us. (Eph. 3:20)

The Bottom Line: God can perform the miraculous for His servants! God wants us to do great things for His kingdom on earth. That was Jesus' prayer, “Father, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” We are the vessel God chooses to use to answer Jesus' prayer. Is that exciting or what?

LESSON PLAN



Denotes “Apply”

Background: *Shittim was a place that held some very bad memories for Israel. I can't imagine Joshua wanting to stay there for 3 days before crossing the Jordan River into the Promised Land. It was there that their fathers had stopped and settled down. They began to get involved with the women of Moab. They began to sacrifice to their gods. This was not a great place to be. However, it is where God has led them to prepare to cross the Jordan and take the lands on the other side. When the families were ready for the crossing they made the journey of 10 miles to the Jordan River.*

Read Joshua 3:1-6

This was a religious processional from God. Only the Levitical Priests were to carry the ark and only with special long poles slid through loops mounted on the Ark. The presence of God would go before the people leading the procession into their new home of the promise.

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1. What is the distance they were to keep between themselves and the Ark?
2. What were the people told to do the night before the Lord would do amazing things?

⌚ In what ways have we lost that sense of awe at the presence of the Almighty God?

⌚ What can we do to reclaim that sense of awe?

⌚ Have you ever prepared on Saturday night for the presence of God in your worship on Sunday? How so? Why do you think it could transform our worship as a body on the weekend?

Read Joshua 3:7-17

3. What season is it that makes this crossing a great test of faith?

It is the harvest season when the Jordan River is at flood stage. This would make the crossing impossible. In fact, it would be a great way to get you killed. At flood stage the Jordan is more like a raging sea of water that no one goes near. It looked like those Mississippi River floods where large trucks are swept away. Interesting that the people are not saying, "Joshua, you are crazy!"

4. Look at verse 7. What does God tell Joshua?



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5. How was God with Joshua this day in the same way He was with Moses?

6. Explain exactly what happened as the feet of the priest carrying God's Ark touched the raging waters.

- ⌚ Can you think of a time in your life when something seemed completely impossible without God's intervention and He made it happen?

Read Joshua 4:1-9

7. Where did the 12 stones come from?

8. What was the purpose of setting up this marker of the 12 stones?

- ⌚ What are some of the things we do to help our children and ourselves to never forget the miraculous things Jesus did for us?

Read Joshua 4:10-24

9. Where did the Israelites carry the 12 stones and place them permanently?

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Interactive Teaching Ideas: ideas for learner-focused teaching. Ask the class to discuss at each table the following assignment and then share the results from each table: **What marker could we erect to this community to declare the hand of God is leading us?**



Going Deeper/Homework:

Memory Verse: "O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger" (Psalm 8:1-2).