

REFLECTIONS

from the sabbatical

Reflections from the Sabbatical

July 18, 2021 | Speaker: Rajendra Pillai, Senior Pastor

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE:

Then Joshua rose early in the morning; and they set out from Acacia Grove and came to the Jordan, he and all the children of Israel, and lodged there before they crossed over. So it was, after three days, that the officers went through the camp; and they commanded the people, saying, "When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, and the priests, the Levites, bearing it, then you shall set out from your place and go after it. Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure. Do not come near it, that you may know the way by which you must go, for you have not passed this way before."
~ Joshua 3:1-4

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

(for personal and small group discussion)

1. What was most impactful to you from this weekend's service?
2. Read Joshua 3:1-4.
 - a. What was the first thing they did when they arrived at the Jordan?
 - b. Why wait three days?
 - c. What instructions were given to the people? How might those apply to us?
 - d. What did you think about the two points in the sermon from this passage?
 - e. Why is it difficult to keep our focus on what is important?
3. If a researcher were to take all your words from the last one year—spoken, written, social media, etc.—and asked others to use one word to describe you based on your words, which word do you think would stand out? Is there another word not on the list below?
 - a. Divisive
 - b. Inviting
 - c. Winsome
 - d. Cranky
 - e. Christlike
 - f. Un-Christlike
 - g. Disrespectful

- h. Kind
 - i. Loving
 - j. Condemning
4. Write down how you would like to be remembered? Then ask yourself – is my life right now congruent with what I have written?
 5. Say this prayer of St. Patrick over yourself, your family, and if doing this as a group, pray together as a group:
 - a. I arise today
 Through the strength of heaven;
 Light of the sun,
 Splendor of fire,
 Speed of lightning,
 Swiftmess of the wind,
 Depth of the sea,
 Stability of the earth,
 Firmness of the rock.
 I arise today
 Through God's strength to pilot me;
 God's might to uphold me,
 God's wisdom to guide me,
 God's eye to look before me,
 God's ear to hear me,
 God's word to speak for me,
 God's hand to guard me,
 God's way to lie before me,
 God's shield to protect me,
 God's hosts to save me
 Afar and anear,
 Alone or in a multitude.
 Christ shield me today
 Against wounding
 Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,
 Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
 Christ on my right, Christ on my left,
 Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down,
 Christ in the heart of everyone who thinks of me,
 Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,
 Christ in the eye that sees me,
 Christ in the ear that hears me.
 I arise today
 Through the mighty strength
 Of the Lord of creation.

