



2020 How to Have your Best Year Yet. *Read the Bible Everyday*

Message to Conversation Guide

1. The Bible is like a navigation system. It helps to guide us to unfamiliar places and even places we have never been before. How does the story of Joshua and the Israelites crossing into the promise land illustrate that?

Josh 3:1-4

*3 Early in the morning Joshua and all the Israelites set out from Shittim and went to the Jordan, where they camped before crossing over. 2 After three days the officers went throughout the camp, 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." NIV, 2011*

2. Discuss the phrases in verses 3 & 4:

"When you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, and the you are to move out from your positions and follow it."

*"Then you will know which way to go, **since you have never been this way before.**"*

3. Life constantly presents us with new experiences and situations we have never been in before. Which of the situations below do you relate to?

- *Having a new baby and bringing that baby home/ Adopting a child*
- *Kids leaving home*
- *Moving to a new town or city*
- *Changing jobs*
- *Retirement*
- *Loss of a loved one.*

4. What was inside the ark of the covenant according to the scriptures below that the priest were carrying?

Heb 9:3-5

3 Behind the second curtain was a room called the Most Holy Place, 4 which had the golden altar of incense and the gold-covered ark of the covenant. This ark contained the gold jar of manna, Aaron's staff that had budded, and the stone tablets of the covenant. 5 Above the ark were the cherubim of the Glory, overshadowing the atonement cover. But we cannot discuss these things in detail now. NIV, 2011

5. The book of the covenant (the law, the 10 commandments) were literally inscribed with the finger of God. This speaks of the supernatural manufacturing of God's word to man. Discuss the privilege we have of having daily access to God's supernaturally produced word. (the Bible)

Ex 31 :18

18 When the Lord finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai, he gave him the two tablets of the covenant law, the tablets of stone inscribed by the finger of God. NIV, 2011 (also see **Ex. 34:29, 40:20**)

6. **Psalm 109:105** says God's word is "a lamp unto our feet" which indicates that when our steps are uncertain, because the way is dark, God's word encourages us and directs us. Discuss the implications of this Psalm as it relates to your personal journey

Psalm 109:105

105 Your word is a lamp for my feet,
a light on my path. NIV, 2011

7. The Hebrew Bible says that new Kings should make a handmade copy of the scriptures when he ascended the throne. What benefits would a new King derive from that discipline? What sort of relationship to scripture should every modern leader have?

Deut 17:18-19

18 When he takes the throne of his kingdom, he is to write for himself on a scroll a copy of this law, taken from that of the Levitical priests. 19 It is to be with him, and he is to read it all the days of his life so that he may learn to revere the Lord his God and follow carefully all the words of this law and these decrees. NIV

8. One benefit of the scriptures is that through them we become wise for life. Read and discuss the verses below.

Ps 19:7

7 The law of the Lord is perfect,
refreshing the soul.
The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy,
making wise the simple. NIV, 2011

Ps 119:98-99

98 Your commands are always with me
and make me wiser than my enemies.
99 I have more insight than all my teachers,
for I meditate on your statutes. NIV, 2011

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