

COURAGEOUS CROSSINGS

LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF JOSHUA

Sermon Series: Courageous Crossings: Lessons from the Life of Joshua

Let's Go

Joshua 4:1–5:9

Date: Sunday, July 27, 2025

Joshua 1:9, “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Truth for Today:

- Reminding yourself of what God has **done** gives you confidence in what He will **do**.
- Testimonies are the byproduct of **passing** the **test**.
- It's never too **late** for a new **beginning**.

Bottom Line:

When I remember what God has done, I will not doubt what He can do.

I. Memorials turn moments into **movements**. (Joshua 4:1–7)

“In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean?’ tell them...”

(v.6-7)

Psalms 145:4, “One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty—They tell of the power of your awesome works—They celebrate your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of your righteousness.”

Forgetting what God has done leads to:

- Spiritual **atrophy**
- Generational **apathy**

The impact of the miracle fades to the degree that we fail to remember it.

Luke 22:19 – “Do this in remembrance of me.”

II. Testimonies are made in the trenches. (Joshua 4:8–9)

“They took twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan...” (v.8)

A Miracle: When outside help **arrives** at the most **opportune** time.

The stones taken from the middle of the river represent:

- The times when God **held** back the **waters**.
- The moments when God **met** me at my **lowest**.
- The places where God invites me to **revisit** when I feel **hopeless**.

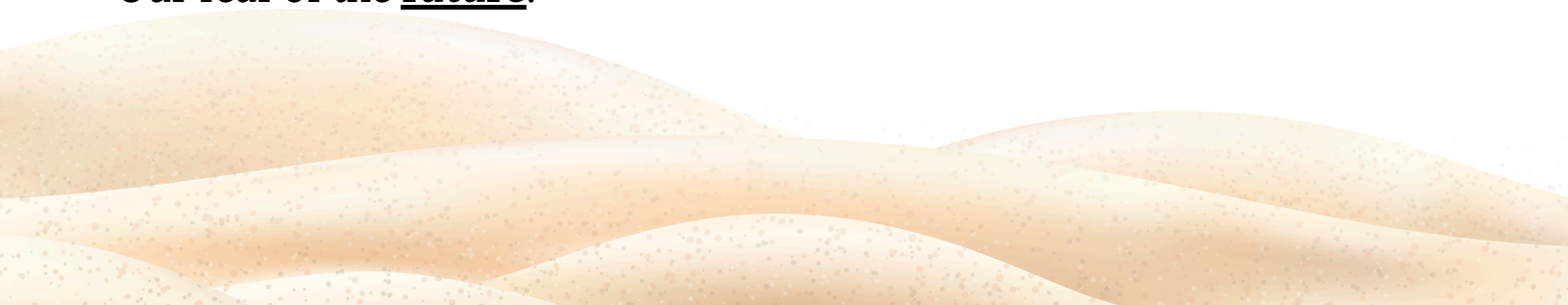
Psalm 77:9-12, “Has God forgotten to be merciful? Has he in anger withheld his compassion?” Then I thought, “To this I will appeal: the years when the Most High stretched out his right hand. I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago. I will consider all your works and meditate on all your mighty deeds.”

III. Painful endings give way to new beginnings. (Joshua 5:1–9)

“Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you...” (v.9)

Gilgal means: “**rolling**”

Gilgal reminds us that God has “rolled away”:

- Our past **shame**.
 - Our heavy **burdens**.
 - Our fear of the **future**.
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Colossians 2:11-12 – “You were circumcised...not by human hands...you were circumcised by Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.”

Reflection Questions:

- What “stone of remembrance” do I need to revisit today?
- Who can I share about God’s goodness and faithfulness with this week?
- What burden, shame, or fear is God trying to “roll away” from my life so I can move forward?

Application:

- Mark the moment. Journal, build, write, or display a reminder of God’s past faithfulness.
- Share your story. Pass it on to someone younger or newer in the faith—“What do these stones mean?”
- Recommit your life. Return to Gilgal as often as you need a reminder of who you are and whose you are.

