

Crossing our "Jordan"

3.3.24

I. Choose to follow Christ

Joshua 3:2-4

²After three days the officers went through the camp ³and commanded the people, "When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God carried by the Levitical priests, you are to break camp and follow it. ⁴But keep a distance of about a thousand yards^[b] between yourselves and the ark. Don't go near it, so that you can see the way to go, for you haven't traveled this way before."

II. Clean up!

Joshua 3:5-6

⁵Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, because the LORD will do wonders among you tomorrow." ⁶Then he said to the priests, "Carry the ark of the covenant and go on ahead of the people." So they carried the ark of the covenant and went ahead of them.

II. Listen to Gods word

Joshua 3:9

⁹Then Joshua told the Israelites, "Come closer and listen to the words of the LORD your God."

III. Know that your decision to obey will not always make sense

Joshua 3:13

¹³When the feet^[d] of the priests who carry the ark of the LORD, the Lord of the whole earth, come to rest in the Jordan's water, its water will be cut off. The water flowing downstream will stand up in a mass.

IV Communicate your crossings.

Joshua 3:15-17

¹⁵Now the Jordan overflows its banks throughout the harvest season. But as soon as the priests carrying the ark reached the Jordan, their feet touched the water at its edge ¹⁶and the water flowing downstream stood still, rising up in a mass that extended as far as^[e] Adam, a city next to

Zarethan. The water flowing downstream into the Sea of the Arabah—the Dead Sea—was completely cut off, and the people crossed opposite Jericho. ¹⁷ The priests carrying the ark of the LORD’s covenant stood firmly on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, while all Israel crossed on dry ground until the entire nation had finished crossing the Jordan.

Joshua 4:4-7

⁴ So Joshua summoned the twelve men he had selected from the Israelites, one man for each tribe, ⁵ and said to them, “Go across to the ark of the LORD your God in the middle of the Jordan. Each of you lift a stone onto his shoulder, one for each of the Israelite tribes, ⁶ so that this will be a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean to you?’ ⁷ you should tell them, ‘The water of the Jordan was cut off in front of the ark of the LORD’s covenant. When it crossed the Jordan, the Jordan’s water was cut off.’ Therefore these stones will always be a memorial for the Israelites.”

Close:

“Above all, be strong and very courageous to observe carefully the whole instruction my servant Moses commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right or the left, so that you will have success wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:7