

Covenant CROSSING



Covenant Crossing
Pastor Mason Phillips | January 4, 2026
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Day 1: Reaffirming Your Covenant

Devotional: Just as Israel crossed the Jordan and set up memorial stones, God calls us to remember His faithfulness. The Passover marked both their deliverance from Egypt and their entrance into promise. What memorials exist in your life that testify to God's goodness? Today, reflect on how God has brought you out of bondage—whether from sin, addiction, or shame. But remember, God didn't just bring you out; He's bringing you into something greater. Covenant relationship with God isn't casual; it requires wholehearted commitment. As you begin this year, recommit yourself fully to Him. Examine where you're giving God only portions of your life instead of surrendering everything. True covenant means Jesus is Lord of all, not just some areas we find convenient.

Reading:

Joshua 4:19-24 NKJV

Now the people came up from the Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and they camped in Gil in the east border of Jericho. And those twelve stones which they took out of the Jordan,

Joshua set up in Gill. Then he spoke to the children of Israel, saying: "When your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, 'What are these stones?' "Then you shall let your children know, saying, 'Israel crossed over this Jordan on dry land'; "for the Lord your God dried up the waters of the Jordan before you until you had crossed over, as the Lord your God did to the Red Sea, which He dried up before us until we had crossed over, "that all the peoples of the earth may know the hand of the Lord, that it is mighty, that you may fear the Lord your God forever."

Reflection: What specific areas of my life need to be surrendered more fully to God's lordship?

Day 2: Removing the Reproach

Devotional: Before Israel could possess the Promised Land, they had to deal with uncircumcised hearts—the parts of their lives still controlled by flesh rather than Spirit. God said, "This day I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." What reproach are you carrying? What shame keeps you from confidently approaching God's throne? Circumcision of the heart means cutting away everything that hinders intimacy with God—impure entertainment, toxic relationships, patterns of sin you've grown comfortable with. This isn't about earning God's love; it's about removing barriers to experiencing it fully. Confession brings freedom. Whatever you've been hiding in shame, bring it to Jesus today. He doesn't condemn; He cleanses. Let Him roll away your reproach so you can walk freely into His purposes.

Reading:

Joshua 5:1-9 NKJV

So it was, when all the kings of the Amorites who were on the west side of the Jordan, and all the kings of the Canaanites who were by the sea, heard that the Lord had dried up the waters of the Jordan from before the children of Israel until we had crossed over, that their heart melted; and there was no spirit in them any longer because of the children of Israel. At that time the Lord said to Joshua, "Make flint knives for yourself, and circumcise the sons of Israel again the second time."

So Joshua made flint knives for himself, and circumcised the sons of Israel at the hill of the foreskins. And this is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: All the people who came out of Egypt who were males, all the men of war, had died in the wilderness on the way, after they had come out of Egypt. For all the people who came out had been circumcised, but all the people born in the wilderness, on the way as they came out of Egypt, had not been circumcised.

For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people who were men of war, who came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they did not obey the voice of the Lord—to whom the Lord swore that He would not show them the land which the Lord had sworn to their fathers that He would give us, "a land flowing with milk and honey."

Then Joshua circumcised their sons whom He raised up in their place; for they were uncircumcised, because they had not been circumcised on the way. So it was, when they had finished circumcising all the people, that they stayed in their places in the camp till they were

healed. Then the Lord said to Joshua, “This day I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.” Therefore the name of the place is called Gill to this day.

Romans 2:28-29 NKJV

For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh; but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.

Reflection: What shame or guilt am I carrying that needs to be rolled away through confession?

Day 3: Uncircumcised Lips and Ears

Devotional: Our words reveal our hearts, and what we listen to shapes our souls. Uncircumcised lips speak doubt, complaint, gossip, and profanity—words that dishonor God and damage relationships. Uncircumcised ears entertain worldly philosophies, ungodly music, and toxic conversations that poison our spirits. Consider: what are you speaking over your life? Are your words building faith or feeding fear? What voices have you given permission to influence your thinking? Music, podcasts, social media—these aren't neutral. They either draw you closer to God or pull you away. Today, ask the Holy Spirit to guard your mouth and your ears. Commit to speaking life, truth, and encouragement. Choose carefully what you allow into your mind. Remember: you cannot walk in God's blessing while feeding on the world's poison.

Reading:

Exodus 6:12 NKJV

And Moses spoke before the Lord, saying, “The children of Israel have not heeded me. How then shall Pharaoh heed me, for I am of uncircumcised lips?”

Exodus 6: 28-30 NKJV

And it came to pass, on the day the Lord spoke to Moses in the land of Egypt, that the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “I am the Lord. Speak to Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I say to you.” But Moses said before the Lord, “Behold, I am of uncircumcised lips, and how shall Pharaoh heed me?”

Jeremiah 6:10 NKJV

*To whom shall I speak and give warning,
That they may hear?
Indeed their ear is uncircumcised,
And they cannot give heed.
Behold, the word of the Lord is a reproach to them;*

They have no delight in it.

James 3:1-12 NKJV

My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgement. For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body. Indeed, we put bits in horses mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body. Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires.

Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell.

For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so.

Does a spring send forth fresh water and bitter from the same opening? Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? This no spring yields both salt water and fresh.

Reflection: How can I practically guard my heart by monitoring what I listen to and speak?

Day 4: Relying on God in Faith

Devotional: The manna stopped the day Israel ate from the Promised Land. For forty years, they had daily, tangible proof of God's provision. Now they had to trust without that visible reminder. Sometimes spiritual maturity means God removes the training wheels. He doesn't love you less; He's developing greater faith in you. Perhaps God once showed up in obvious ways, but now you must walk by faith, not sight. This isn't abandonment—it's advancement. Israel gained the land but lost the manna because God had something better. What if the transition you're in, the uncertainty you face, is actually God inviting you to deeper trust? Your victory doesn't come through human strength or wisdom but through faith in God's character. He's faithful even when you can't see the path clearly. Trust Him today, especially when you can't trace Him.

Reading:

Joshua 5:10-12 NKJV

Now the children of Israel camped in Gilgal, and kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight on the plains of Jericho. And they ate of the land on the day after the Passover, unleavened bread and parched grain, on the very same day. Then the manna ceased on the day after they had eaten the produce of the land; and the children of Israel no longer had manna, but they ate the food of the land of Canaan that year.

Hebrews 11:1-6 NKJV

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.

By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, “and was not found, because God had taken him”, for before he was taken he had this testimony, that he pleased God. But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Reflection: Where is God calling me to trust Him without visible confirmation?

Day 5: Possessing Your Promises

Devotional: God brought Israel out to bring them in—out of slavery, into abundance; out of wilderness, into promise. He does the same for you. God doesn't deliver you from sin just to leave you stranded; He brings you into purpose, peace, and blessing. But possessing promises requires action. Israel had to circumcise their hearts, celebrate Passover, and trust God before they could fight battles and inherit cities. What promises has God spoken over your life that remain unpossessed? Perhaps you're waiting for God to act, but He's waiting for you to step forward in obedient faith. This year, don't just hope for change—actively pursue covenant relationship with God. Remove the hindrances. Surrender the shame. Trust Him completely. The Promised Land isn't just future heaven; it's abundant life now, walking in God's purposes, experiencing His presence, and bearing fruit that glorifies Him.

Reading:

Deuteronomy 6:20-25 NKJV

When your son asks you in time to come, saying, ‘What is the meaning of the testimonies, the statutes, and the judgements which the Lord or God has commanded you?’ “Then you shall say to your son: ‘We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand; ‘and the Lord showed signs and wonders before our eyes, great and severe, against Egypt, Pharaoh, and all his household.

‘Then He brought us out from there, that He might bring us in, to give us the land of which He swore to our fathers. ‘And the Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as it is this day. ‘Then it will be righteousness for us, if we are careful to observe all these commandments before the Lord our God, as He has commanded us.’

Romans 8:31-39 NKJV

What then shall we say to these things? If god is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hadn't of God, who also makes intercession for us.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written:

*“For Your sake we are killed al day long;
We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.”*

Yet in all these things we are more then conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reflection: What promises of God am I ready to possess through faith and obedience?