

December 29

Joshua 3:11-13 (NIV) ¹¹ Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth will go ahead of you into the Jordan. ¹² Now choose twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. ¹³ When the feet of the priests who carry the ark of the LORD—the Lord of all the earth—touch down in the waters of the Jordan, its flowing waters will be cut off and will stand up in a heap.”

A resident of a care facility went into cardiac arrest. The staff quickly began to do all they could while others called for paramedics. Everyone involved did all they could to keep the man alive until professional help arrived. However, when the two paramedics arrived, they stopped at the door and refused to enter the facility. They explained that some COVID law prevented them from entering the building. Thus, the staff would have to bring the man outside. The patient was not in a bed with wheels, so a police officer jumped into action. The officer and other staff members pushed the bed through the building and out the front door. Only then did the paramedics act. Unfortunately, the man died later at the hospital.

I have imagined what it might have been like to be one of the priests who carried the ark that day. The Jordan was at flood stage, which meant the waters were swift and dangerous. Notice, God does not stop the water until the feet of the last priest touched the water. Imagine the faith of the first priest who had to be deep in the river. Too often, when God tells us to step out, we want Him to stop the waters first, but that does not require faith. It is at that point that fear and faith meet. Faith is the key to seeing God’s word become reality in our lives because it pushes aside the fear and doubt. The paramedics stated that they feared getting the virus, so they stayed where it was safe. Unfortunately, they were needed inside. Holding onto His word but never putting it into practice would be stopping short of where Jesus wants us to be. For a long time, I prayed I would see the “miracles” that others were living. If we stand on the bank waiting for the waters to stop first, nothing will happen. When we step out in faith trusting God and His Word, then we will experience what the world calls miracles.