

This week we will study about how the Children of Israel crossed the River Jordan to enter into the Promised Land.



Torchlight

"The influence of this miracle, both upon the Hebrews and upon their enemies, was of great importance. It was an assurance to Israel of God's continued presence and protection—an evidence that He would work for them through Joshua as He had wrought through Moses."

— Patriarchs & Prophets p. 484–485



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Joshua

Daily Devotional 27



LET'S PRAY Dear God, Thank You for the promises in the Bible that help strengthen me in my Christian walk. Thank You for Your love and care for me. Assist me to share that love and care with someone else today. Help me to understand what I read in Your Word. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - JOSHUA 1:9

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Joshua 1:1-18



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Our reading today tells us that the Children of Israel were at the borders of the Promised Land. The only obstacle in front of them was the Jordan River. Moses, their great earthly leader whom they had mourned for 30 days, was dead. Joshua, Moses' assistant, was to be their new leader and was to take the people across the Jordan. We read in verse 5 that just as God was with Moses so would God be with Joshua, which must have been very comforting to Joshua, as he probably felt he had some pretty big shoes to fill! The Bible tells us 3 times, that Joshua was to



be strong and courageous. God was encouraging them, as 40 years before, they had been too afraid to go in to take the land. The tribes of Gad, Reuben and half the tribe of Manasseh still had to cross over the Jordan River even though their portion of land was on the eastern side of the river. They were to help their brethren take possession of the land, and then they were allowed to return.

Just as God encouraged Joshua with the words we have read today, we know that these words are for us as well. God wants us to be strong and courageous by believing in Him and His Word, so we can move forward in our Christian walk.

FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - JOSHUA 1:_

"Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do
according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do
not turn from it to the right hand,,,
"





LET'S PRAY Dear Lord, Thank You for my family and their care for me. Help me to be kind and helpful to someone today. Let Your light shine through me. Thank You for my Bible and the promises You have in there for me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - JOSHUA 1:9

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Joshua 2:1-14



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Before crossing the Jordan, Joshua decided to send out two men to spy out the great city of Jericho. The spies came to a house where a woman named Rahab lived. Jericho was on high alert for anything suspicious because they knew the Children of Israel were on their borders. The king of Jericho found out that two spies had entered his city so his soldiers went and knocked on Rahab's door. Rahab had hidden the two spies at the peril of her life. When the soldiers knocked on her door she told them the two men had already left the city. Rahab protected the spies because she knew who they were. Notice in verse 11 that Rahab acknowledged that God is the God of heaven above

and the earth beneath. The Bible tells us that Rahab was a harlot. The Remnant Young Scholar Study Bible dictionary refers to a harlot as being an 'impure woman'. God's great mercy and love is here displayed in Rahab – an impure woman acknowledging a pure God. By faith she reached out to the spies and asked them to look after her and her family, and they agreed because of her kindness to them. The story of Rahab has been put in the Bible to show us that it doesn't matter who we are and what we have been doing with our lives: if by faith we reach out and acknowledge God, God can pull us out of our sinful lives and guide us in a fresh new walk with Him.



FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - JOSHUA 2:_

"And as soon as w	e heard these things, our hearts melted; neither
did there remain ar	ny more courage in any one because of you, for the
LORD, _	
"	
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LET'S PRAY Dearest Heavenly Father, thank You for my safe keeping today. Help me to understand and love You more as I read Your word. Please forgive me for my sins and mould my life to Your likeness. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - JOSHUA 1:9

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Joshua 2:15-24



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

In today's reading, Rahab let the spies down by a rope from her window, which was in the city wall. The spies told Rahab to place a scarlet cord in the window to keep her family safe; they were not to leave the house. If they did, the spies would not be responsible for any harm that came to them. Also, the promise would not be kept if she told others the secret. Rahab advised the spies to go into the mountains to hide for three days so the soldiers could not find them. After three days of hiding the spies made their way back to the Jordan and crossed over to the

encampment to give their report. Verse 24 tells us it's a good one!



Remember, that 40 years before, when 12 spies were sent out to spy out the land only two came back with a good report. It's interesting that Joshua only sent out 2 spies. I wonder if past experience had influenced Joshua's decision? What do you think?

FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - JOSHUA 2:_

'Then she said, 'According to your words, so be it.' And she sent	
them away, and they departed	
33	
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LET'S PRAY Dear Father, thank You for the many blessings You give me. Help me to love and trust You more as You guide my life. Help me to be a blessing to someone else today so they can see Your love for them in me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - JOSHUA 1:9

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Joshua 3:1-17



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

Today we have read in the Bible that the Israelites were told to follow the priests when they saw them carrying the Ark of the Covenant towards the Jordan River. Verse 4 tells us they were to leave a space between the ark and themselves of 2,000 cubits, which in our measurement is just under 1 km. Verse 5 also tells us the Children of Israel had to sanctify themselves, or put away their sin and search their hearts and ask for forgiveness because God was going to perform a miracle in their favour. The priests carrying the Ark were instructed to go right up to the



edge of the water and put their feet in. This was a great act of faith as at that time of year the Jordan River was swollen, or flooded, because of the melting snow in the mountains. Once the feet of the priests were in the water, God parted the Jordan River, just as He did the Red Sea, and then the Children of Israel were able to cross over on the dry riverbed.

Just as the priests had to put their feet into the Jordan River before God would part it, sometimes God asks us to step out in faith for Him as well. Sometimes we have to get our feet wet! God is waiting for us to take that first brave step for Him.

FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - JOSHUA 3:_

"And the LORD said to Joshua, 'This day I will begin to exalt you in the
sight of all Israel, that they may know,,,
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LET'S PRAY Dear God, Help me not to forget the wonderful things You have done for me. Help me to praise and thank You more. Thank You for my Bible. Please help me to understand what I read. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - JOSHUA 1:9

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Joshua 4:1-9, 14-20



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

In our reading today we find that God told Joshua to do something very interesting. God didn't want the Children of Israel to forget what He had just done for them by opening up the Jordan so they could cross over into the Promised Land. Joshua told the people to choose 12 men, one from each tribe, to go to the dry riverbed and collect a stone each. They must have been quite big; as verse 5 tells us they carried the stones up on their shoulders. Joshua sets up a memorial on the western side of the riverbank at Gilgal as a reminder of what God had done. They were

to tell their children this story. But verse 9 tells us they also set up 12 stones in the riverbed where the feet of the priests were standing, so when the water started to flow again, the stones created a small island. This was a double sign that this miracle was not to be forgotten.

God knows, as human beings, that we forget easily. He does everything He can to make sure we remember the things He has done for us. Check out *Deuteronomy 4:9*, *Deuteronomy 6:12* and *1 Chronicles 16:12*.



FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - JOSHUA 4:_

"And those twelve sto	ones which they took out of the, _	
"		





LET'S PRAY Dear Lord, thank You for providing for all of my needs. Please help me to be more thoughtful of others and to share Your love with someone else today. Help me to understand what I read in my Bible. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - JOSHUA 1:9

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Joshua 5:1-12



LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS

In the Bible today, we found that when the Canaanites and the people from the surrounding nations heard of the amazing miracle of the Israelites crossing the Jordan, 'their hearts melted' – meaning they were very afraid. Also, during the 40 years of the wilderness wanderings, the Israelites had not circumcised the baby boys that had been born during that time. Now that they were in the Promised Land and had obeyed God's command to move forward, the reproach of God had been lifted off them. They now circumcised all the boys and celebrated the



Passover. Notice in verse 12 that the Manna now ceased because it was no longer needed, as there was plenty of food for them in the Land of Canaan.

From the time the children of Israel had left Egypt to the time they set foot in the Promised Land, God had faithfully provided for them. Think about the miracle that God performed every day with the Manna so they had something to eat. This is a very good reminder that God will provide for all your needs. Check out Philippians 4:19 to remind you of God's great care. It was our memory verse for devotional 18.

FIND AND FINISH THIS VERSE - JOSHUA 5:_

"And they ate of the produce of	the land on the day	after the Passover,
unleavened		"





LET'S PRAY Dear Father, thank You for the Sabbath day when I can rest and learn more about You. Help me to be an encouragement to someone today. I love you Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen.

MEMORY VERSE - JOSHUA 1:9

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

THERE'S **POWER** IN THE WORD!

LET'S READ:

Joshua 5:13-15



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Our reading of the Bible today tells us that, not far from the Israelite encampment was the city of Jericho. Joshua knew it was the very first city they would have to gain possession of, in the Land of Canaan. Joshua went off by himself to pray and spend time with God to find out what he needed to do. Just as with Moses at the Burning bush, the Lord came down to visit Joshua. Like Moses, Joshua had to remove his sandals. The Lord revealed to Joshua how the city of Jericho was to be captured.

This experience must have been of great assurance to Joshua to help give him courage as a leader of Israel. Look at these assurances in the Bible that are there for us to claim, showing us that God is with us too: *Genesis 26:24*, *Matthew 28:20* and *Hebrews 13:5*.



SABBATH QUIZ

1. How many spies did Joshua send out to spy ou	it the land?
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- 2. What did Rahab have to bind to her window so her and her family would be saved? _____
- 3. How many days did the spies stay in the mountains before returning to camp? _____
- 4. How many men carried the stones out of the river?
- 5. What did God cease when the Children of Israel arrived in the Promised Land?