

Joshua 3-5 - Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. Looking at Joshua 4:1-7 what were the 12 men told to do and when (v1, 2-5)? Why were they to do this (v6-7)? How can we apply this today?

5. In 4:8-14 what did Israel (v8) and Joshua (v9) do? Who was there (v10)? Who crossed over (v11-13) and why was this significant? What else did this event signal (v14)?

6. From 4:15-24 what happened next (v15-18)? When was this and where did they camp (v19)? What did they then do and why (v20, 21-22, 24)? What were they to tell them (v22, 23, 24)?

7. Read 5:1. Who heard about the crossing of the Jordan? How did it affect them? Explain why this was important for Israel.

8. Based on 5:2-7 what did God command Joshua (v2) and why (v4-5, 6)? How did Joshua respond (v3, 7)? What was the significance of circumcision (see Gen 17:9-14)?

9. Using 5:8-12 what did Israel do next (v8) and where (v9)? What did this name signify (v9)? What else did they do (v10-11, 12) and what else occurred (v12)? Apply.

10. According to 5:13-15 who did Joshua see and where (v13)? What did he ask (v13) and what did He say (v14)? How did Joshua respond (v14) and how did He answer (v15)?

11 Review Joshua 3-5. How was faith and obedience shown in this story (3:13-17; 4:12-13; 5:2-8; 10)? How was the faithfulness of God seen (3:15-17; 4:14, 17-18; 5:1, 8-9, 11-12, 13-15)?

Scripture to Remember

“The Lord said to the people,
‘Consecrate yourselves,
for tomorrow the Lord will
do wonders among you.’”

Joshua 3:5 (NASV)

Celebration Fellowship

Help—Hope—Healing

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Life Group Questions—Choose God's Love (John 3:16)

(Using questions from Sunday's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. Two or three share their favorite verses and why. John 3:16 is probably the best-known verse to most people—why do you think that it is?
2. Read John 3:16. Think of one area in which you struggle and the source of it—how can this verse help you deal with it, instead of just rationalizing it?
3. Discuss the view of God that you typically hold—the grumpy God, the game God, the guessing God, the genie God, or the giving God. Which is true based on John 3:16?
4. How far does God's love reach? How does this apply to someone you know who you think is unreachable? What can you do?
5. What does the fact that Jesus was the “Lamb slain before the foundation of the world” mean to you? How should this change the way we live?
6. Talk about the truth that the expectation of love is that it longs to be received. How should this affect our relationship with God?
7. Discuss how we actually receive God's love—the difference between “faith” and “believing”. What is the actual and potential result of this? Apply.



WE SHALL OVERCOME

Studies in Joshua

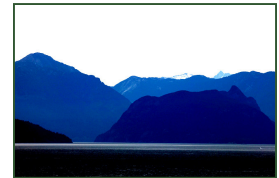
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Growing in Spirit & Truth

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Happiness in a Rearview Mirror Joshua 3-5



The manifest destiny of disciples is to recapture the world for Jesus.

The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God’s pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God’s family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

As the saying goes “happiness is _____ in a rearview mirror (you fill in the blank)”; it’s just time to leave some places. The nation of Israel must have felt this way about the wilderness, having been there for forty years. Surely for them “happiness was the wilderness in a rearview mirror”. In this week’s study Israel was at the Jordan River, poised to enter Canaan, the land that God had promised. There was one problem: the Jordan was at flood stage and humanly impassable. Under Joshua’s leadership, however, Israel proceeded by faith. He instructed the priests to lead about a thousand yards ahead with the Ark of the Covenant and when they came to the river they were to step into it. The people were to consecrate themselves for the crossing because they would be following the ark which represented God. As soon as the

priests’ feet touched the water the river miraculously stopped a great distance upstream, rising in one heap, and the river ground became dry. The people then crossed over to Canaan while the priests waited. The moment the priests and ark left the waters returned. There was another command that also had been given, that a leader from each of the tribes would take a large stone from the river bottom to raise as a memorial. Using this monument the fathers would be able to present the story of their deliverance from Egypt and their crossing of the Jordan at flood stage. They were to be reminded regularly of God’s mighty deliverance, showing His gracious choice of them. The men did this and the stones were raised at Gilgal. When the nations around Jericho and Canaan heard of this, their hearts melted in fear over Israel’s ad-

vance. At this point preparation for the conquest began. The first step of this was circumcision since the new generation had not received this sign of the covenant. With this act God told Joshua that the “reproach of Egypt” had been rolled away. Israel then ate the first Passover in the land and the manna stopped. The final preparation was the appearance of the captain of the host of the Lord to Joshua. When asked who he was for, the captain said the host of the Lord—the same as Joshua. Joshua humbly prostrated himself and was told that he was standing on holy ground. They were now ready to go; happiness was the wilderness in a rearview mirror.

Study Questions for Joshua 3-5

(For answers go to [http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf/html/study questions](http://www.celebrationnet.com/abf/html/study%20questions))

1. Read Joshua 3:1-6. Where did Israel go next and how long (v1-2)? What were Israel’s instructions (v3, 4, 5) and why was each important (v4, 5)? Why did the priests and the ark lead the way (v6)?	
2. From 3:7-13 what did God promise and command (v7, 8)? What did Joshua tell Israel (v9-10) and what did he instruct (v11-12)? Why (Josh 4:2-3)? What did he say would happen (v13)?	
3. In 3:14-17 how did the people respond (v14-15) and what happened (v16, 17)? Why was this miraculous (v15b)?	

(Continued on Next Page)