



# Miracles and Memories

JOSHUA 3-4



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## **WELCOME:** Fixing Our Focus

### **Suggested icebreaker:**

Ask GG members to share a moment when they experienced a “crossing” in their lives - a time they faced a big change or challenge and saw God help them through it. This could be a move, a new job, a difficult decision, or any significant life transition. How did they see God’s guidance or provision during that time? Encourage personal reflection and sharing, fostering connection and setting the stage for the themes of miracles and remembering God’s faithfulness in the study of Joshua 3-4.

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## **WORSHIP:** Adoring Our God

### **Suggested song:**

[Goodness of God](#)

# WORD & WALK:

## Understanding & Applying the Word

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### LESSON AIM

1. GG members will deepen their understanding of God's ability to perform miracles and fulfill his promises, as demonstrated in the miraculous crossing of the Jordan River, encouraging them to reflect on how God's past faithfulness can inspire trust and confidence in his promises for the future.
2. GG members will explore the significance of creating memorials and the act of remembrance as seen in the erection of the twelve stones, with the aim to discuss how recalling God's past works can strengthen their faith and serve as a testimony to future generations.
3. GG members will draw parallels between the Israelites' experiences and theirs, emphasizing the importance of spiritual readiness and obedience in receiving God's blessings.

### INTRODUCTION

In Joshua 3-4, we read an amazing story about how the Israelites moved into a new land that God promised to them. They came to a big river called the Jordan, which God helped them cross in a miraculous way: He made the river stop flowing so they could walk across on dry land. After they crossed, God told Joshua to have the people set up twelve stones. These stones were to help them remember this miracle. These parts of the Bible teach us about following God's instructions, trusting Him, and remembering the good things He does for us.

### The Israelites prepared to cross the Jordan River (vv. 3:1-13)

Joshua led the Israelites as they prepared to cross the Jordan River. God had given specific instructions to them prior to their crossing the river, and Joshua, together with the leaders of the people, disseminated the instructions.

1. What did God instruct Joshua to tell the Israelites about crossing the Jordan River? How far apart should they be from the Ark of the Covenant?
2. What did God say would occur when the priests carrying the Ark touched the water of the Jordan?
3. Why do you think God wanted the Israelites to recognize his presence among them through the Ark of the Covenant?
4. How do you think the Israelites felt when they heard that the river would stop flowing? How might that have affected their faith?
5. What is the importance of obeying and having faith in God's plans?

### Application

In what areas of your life do you need to trust in God's presence and guidance, and how can you prepare your heart to follow his instructions, even when they seem uncertain or challenging?

# WORD & WALK:

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### **The Israelites miraculously crossed the Jordan River**

#### **(vv. 3:14-4:14)**

God miraculously caused the Israelites to cross over the Jordan River on dry ground, just as he had caused them to cross over the Red Sea on dry ground miraculously.

1. What happened to the Jordan River when the priests' feet touched its waters?
2. What did Joshua command the twelve men from each tribe to do in the middle of the Jordan River?
3. Reflect on the significance of the Jordan River stopping at the priests' feet touching the water. What does this tell us about the nature of miracles in the Bible?
4. What do you think was the significance of the Israelites crossing the Jordan River on dry ground? What does this, and the crossing of the Red Sea, tell us about God's deliverance?

### **Application**

Have you experienced a crossing moment in your life where God miraculously delivered you? How did it affect your faith journey? Or perhaps you are at the brink of a crossing moment right now. How can this story encourage you to trust in God's provision and timing?

### **Joshua built a memorial to remind the Israelites of God's faithfulness and strength (vv. 4:15-24)**

After the Israelites had crossed the Jordan River, the priests came up out of the riverbed, and the waters of the Jordan resumed flowing. Joshua set up a memorial using the twelve stones so that future generations would know of God's faithfulness and power.

1. What happened after the priests came up from the Jordan?
2. What did Joshua do with the twelve stones taken from the Jordan? What was their purpose and significance?
3. Why is the act of remembering so crucial in the relationship between God and his people?
4. In what ways was a physical memorial different from a story recalling the crossing?
5. What was God teaching the people when he instructed them to teach their children the significance of the stones?

# WORD & WALK:

## Understanding & Applying the Word

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### Application

How can you create “memorials” in your life to remember and celebrate God’s faithfulness to you and your family? What are some stories of God’s faithfulness that you can share with others, especially the next generation?

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### PRAYER ITEM

Heavenly Father, thank you for your miraculous guidance and steadfast presence, as shown in Joshua 3-4. Help us to remember your past faithfulness, trust in your power to do miracles today, and obey your directions with confidence. May the stones of our lives build memorials of your goodness for all to see. Strengthen our faith and use us to pass on your works to the next generation.

In your holy name, Amen. ■



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If you used this study guide in leading your growth group, please rate it at <https://bit.ly/GCFSGFeedback>. Thank you!



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