

**Joshua: Journey of Faith Series**  
**“It’s Your Season To Be Blessed”**  
**LESSON 4**

**We’re Headed In A New Direction**

This Christian life has often been referred to as a journey. Each day we are to strive to walk a little closer to the Savior and move a little closer to our heavenly destination. This journey is very much a walk of faith with the Word of God as our road map and the Spirit of God as our guide. As one of Jesus’ disciples, we do not have the luxury of remaining stagnant or motionless in our spiritual movement and growth.

Much of what God desires to do in us and for us require our obedient cooperation. **READ: I Cor 3:9 QUESTION:** In John 9: 1 – 11, we read of a man which was born blind; how did Jesus requires this man’s obedient cooperation in the making of this miracle and why?

**Look At What Only God Can Do**

Josh 3:1-2 and 3:15

The moment had finally arrived for the faith of the Israelites to be manifested in their actions. The bible tells us that Joshua and the people had camped near the banks of the flooded Jordan River for at least three days. There the people could witness firsthand the just how the swollen waters of the Jordan had overwhelmed all of its banks and levies and had severely infiltrated the land. **QUESTIONS:** Why do you think God wanted these Israelites to see just how greatly the Jordan River had flooded? Why would God want us to become familiar with that which attempts to inhibit us from our promised blessings? How might the enemy have attempted to use the Israelites observations of the overly swollen Jordan River against them?

There are times when God intentionally introduces us to that which he is about to deal with in our behalf. Perhaps God wants us and those around us to be aware of the immenseness of the matter and how we possess little power in ourselves to alleviate the hindrance. **READ: Romans 12:6** When Moses would call for the Ark of the covenant to be moved to a new location, the Levites would lift the sacred box and the people would shout “let God arise and his enemies be scattered!” **READ Num 10: 35 – 36**

**God Is Still Our Leader**

Joshua 3: 3 – 4

This is the first mention of the “Ark of the Covenant” in the book of Joshua. **QUESTIONS:** What did this ark represent to the people of Israel? What was in the ark? Why do you think we no longer have the ark with us today? **READ Eph 2: 13 – 18**

In the absence of the physical Ark of the Covenant, many Christians still labor to find some pseudo-relationship with God through some other means rather than building a sincerely intimate and legitimate relationship with Christ. **QUESTION:** How might the components within the modern day “church” experience provide a physical substitution for a truly spiritual relationship with Christ? **QUESTION:** How might something as innocent as the current use of “praise and worship” have the potential to become an “end” in itself rather than a means to enter to holy presence of God? In many cases people will strive to get close to people that they feel are close to God as a substitute for their own personal relationship with Jesus; or participate in some activity that they believe enhances the appearance that they are quite spiritual. **READ Acts 8: 18 - 21 QUESTION:** What was so wrong with Simon desiring this gift?

### **Watch God Do The Impossible**

Joshua 3: 14 - 17

This miracle greatly parallels that of Joshua predecessor Moses. **QUESTION:** Why might have God chosen to demonstrate such a similar miracle to initiate Joshua’s leadership? Perhaps the Lord wanted to insure both Joshua and the people that “as he was with Moses” so he is now with Joshua. **QUESTION:** How might we today be assured that God is with us in our endeavors? It begins by living a life that strives to please God. Readily work to obey what you already know is God’s will; for example **I Thess. 4:2** (*begin by simply obeying what you know is right*) - **7 Other examples: 1 John 5:14**

With the priests feet barely in the water; and the Israelites witnessing the processional from afar off, God did the miraculous! The waters of the Jordan stopped their flow. The rushing current piled up like a wall so 20 miles upriver; and the flowing waters rushed away into the basin of the Dead Sea exposing dry ground for their crossing! The bible is teeming with many such miracles. These miracles provide opportunities for us to celebrate the victorious power of our God.

### **There’s A Bigger Picture!**

We are delighted to hear about all of the incredible things God is able to do. However, miracles or “signs” as the bible often called them, have a greater meaning than the immediate benefit. Miracles of God are meant to point to something greater than itself. **QUESTION: READ John 2: 1 - 11,** What is the literal interpretation of this miracle? What are the implied deeper meanings of this miracle? My local church recently experienced a miracle during our annual picnic - when an 88 year old mother literally died in our presence and through prayer and the intervention of our nursing staff was revived and is doing quite well today! What do you think are the deeper meanings in that experience that God may desire for us to understand? Perhaps the greater message of our miracles can be uniquely tailored for each and every individual. That is to say, what God may want me to get from the experience may not be what he desires for you to glean from the same experience. **QUESTION:** Why is it important for you to find the greater message in your miracle?