

Preparing For Your Next Challenge

July 30, 2023

“Early the next morning Joshua and all the Israelites left Acacia Grove and arrived at the banks of the Jordan River, where they camped before crossing. ²Three days later the Israelite officers went through the camp, ³giving these instructions to the people: ‘When you see the Levitical priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord your God, move out from your positions and follow them. ⁴Since you have never traveled this way before, they will guide you. Stay about half a mile behind them, keeping a clear distance between you and the Ark. Make sure you don’t come any closer.’ ⁵Then Joshua told the people, ‘Purify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do great wonders among you.’” Joshua 3:1-5 (NLT)

1. _____ On God.

“³ ... move out from your positions and follow them (priests). ⁴Since you have never traveled this way before, they will guide you. ... ” Joshua 3:3-4 (NLT)

“²⁹ ... Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, ‘Lord, save me!’” Matthew 14:29-30 (NIV)

2. _____ God Exclusively.

“ ... Purify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do great wonders among you.” Joshua 3:5 (NLT)

“⁸Also get rid of your anger, hot tempers, hatred, cursing, obscene language, and all similar sins. ⁹Don’t lie to each other. You’ve gotten rid of the person you used to be and the life you used to live, ¹⁰and you’ve become a new person. This new person is continually renewed in knowledge to be like its Creator.” Colossians 3:8-10 (GWT)

“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.” Joshua 1:8 (NKJV)

“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.” Romans 10:17 (NKJV)

3. _____ Move Forward.

“So the people left their camp to cross the Jordan, and the priests who were carrying the Ark of the Covenant went ahead of them. ¹⁵ ... and the Jordan was overflowing its banks. But as soon as the feet of the priests who were carrying the Ark touched the water at the river’s edge, ¹⁶the water above that point began backing up a great distance away ... and the water below that point flowed on to the Dead Sea until the riverbed was dry. Then all the people crossed over near the town of Jericho.” Joshua 3:14-16 (NLT)

“Do not turn aside from any of the commands I give you today, to the right or to the left, following other gods and serving them.” Deuteronomy 28:14 (NIV)