

Big Idea: God wants me to remember His faithfulness with every step I take onward in faith.

1) I will never forget who is with me. (Joshua 3:1-6,13-17)

The ark of the covenant represents God's presence, holiness, and glory.

On a scale of one to ten, how close do you sense God's presence in your daily life?

The Israelites were told to follow the ark but not come too close to it. The Bible holds the transcendence of God (unlike me) and the imminence of God (near me) in perfect balance. Some people treat God too casually. What does that look like? Other people treat God too impersonally. What does that look like?

Are you more prone to treat God too casually or too impersonally? Why? How can you strike the right balance in your view of God?

Joshua 3:4 says, "you have not passed this way before." Are you facing any unknown territory for which you need to be assured of God's presence?

God didn't stop the waters of the Jordan river until the people took a step of faith into the water. God may not cause the waters to stop until I take a step. Are you hesitating to take your next step until God makes the way easier? Why?

Do you need to take a step of faith? How?

2) I will never forget where I came from. (Joshua 4:1-7)

The twelve stones marked the place where the Israelites crossed over into the Promised Land. What do you remember about crossing over from the following spiritual markers?

- From sinner to salvation.
- From self-indulgent to surrendered.
- From compromising to consecrated.
- From fearful to trusting.
- From isolated to belonging.

Crossing Jordan was not the finish line for the Israelites. It was the starting line. Do you view your point of salvation as the beginning or the end of your journey with God? How far have you gone onward from the point of your salvation?

Discuss this statement: *Moving away from God happens in small, imperceptible drifts. Moving onward with God happens in big, decisive shifts.*

3) I will never forget who I am. (Joshua 5:1-9)

Circumcision was a physical marker meant to remind God's people of their covenant with God. Did circumcision guarantee God's people would never forget God? Can any external ceremony guarantee a heart for God?

Read Jeremiah 6:10, Jeremiah 9:25-26, Romans 2:28-29, Galatians 5:6. Does God want a people who are externally or internally circumcised?

What are the heart attitudes of someone who truly belongs to the family of God?

Additional Scripture

- Exodus 25:22
- Psalm 26:1
- Psalm 37:3-11
- Romans 2:28-29
- Galatians 5:6
- Galatians 6:15