

Crossing Over

Joshua 3:1-5:12

We're taking this prayer model today from Joshua 3:1 – 5:12. As you know, this is the story of Israel crossing the Jordan. The spies have returned from Jericho. The vision is to conquer the Promised Land and their first target is Jericho. But, they have no battle instructions or idea what conquering that much country will look like. But, they didn't need that strategy yet. The Lord would make that clear once they crossed over.

The Lord said that He would “establish” Joshua in the sight of the people. The priests were the first in and out of the river. Some experts have said that it could have taken multiple days for the children of Israel with their livestock and such to cross the river. Not only were the priests the first into the river, they were part of the entire crossing process and were the last ones out of the river.

What we see is that the **Lord is the Great Establisher and Caller**. He also calls leaders to **start and finish well**.

Let's thank the Lord that He still does those things. Then let's ask the Lord to **establish and call the right leaders in this season** of crossing over. And, we need to ask Him to **give us the courage to lead and finish well**. I don't want to leave the riverbed to early.

In verses 15 and 16 we see the river backed up. We also know that the river was at flood stage, the most inconvenient time to cross. The river was stopped at a time when the miracle revealed His power the greatest. If we were to drop down to chapter 4:32 through 5:1 we see that the people of the land heard about it and knew that God was on their side.

Commentators say that the river was dried up for about 25 miles. We read in Joshua 4:23-5:1 that the kings west of the river heard about this miracle. Those same kings acknowledged the power of Israel's God.

It is interesting that the supernatural happened when the leaders followed the process and path provided by the Lord. It wasn't just random.

Crossing Over

Joshua 3:1-5:12

So, we're going to thank the Lord that **He is the revealer of power and glory**. Let's also thank the Lord that **he provides processes and paths to accomplish His mission**.

Then, we will ask the Lord to **reveal Himself, as He did to all of the "ites" in our cities, state, and nation**. And, let's ask the Lord to **reveal His process and path**.

In chapter 4 verse 7 we are introduced to the memorial stones that would be taken from the river and set up as testimonial markers for the future generations. From these passages let's thank the Lord that **establishes His testimony for generations**.

The request will then be that He **reveal our role in establishing His testimony for future generations**. You might say that we're asking the Lord which stones need to be set and which ones left covered by the river.

The final prayer point is found in Joshua 5:11-12. After completing the crossing over the manna stopped and they had to now hunt and gather the fruit of the land. Most of these people had never had anything but manna and the desert diet. This was so totally new to them.

The revelation is **that the Lord does new things in new places**. He doesn't just repeat the things He has done in the past.

Our request will then be that the Lord will **help us to see and embrace what He is doing in the new land**. That we will be willing to hunt rather sit and just wait on the manna that may not be coming. We want to ask Him to **do new things in us**.

In a moment when we begin to pray you are free to walk or stand or sit. We're going to ask you to stand if you can. We also want you to pray out loud. Let's touch Heaven this morning.

Crossing Over

Joshua 3:1-5:12

Also, we ask you to be aware that I will prompt us through the prayer points so that we can come into agreement on the same points at the same time. We all understand the power of agreement and how important that is.

Finally, I know that the Lord will speak to us. Be sensitive to what He is saying to you.

We want to now take a moment to reflect on what Jesus is saying in our midst. What did you sense the Lord saying to you that now, as you reflect on it, you think it might be for more than just you. Maybe the thought, picture, or impression was for all of us. Because of the size of our group and our time constraints if you have something, try to keep it to two or three sentences.

What did the Lord say?