

CROSSING OVER ~ JOSHUA 3



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- ◆ Have you ever been to the edge of something great, then turned around?
- ◆ New & unexpected things come our way, change & hard things ~ and too often we choose to stay where we are (wilderness) instead of real life & adventure
- ◆ Will Joshua & Israel cross over?

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Joshua 3:1-4 (English Standard Version)

¹Then Joshua rose early in the morning and they set out from Shittim. And they came to the Jordan, he and all the people of Israel, and lodged there before they passed over. ² At the end of three days the officers went through the camp ³and commanded the people, "As soon as you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God being carried by the Levitical priests, then you shall set out from your place and follow it. ⁴ Yet there shall be a distance between you and it, about 2,000 cubits in length. Do not come near it, in order that you may know the way you shall go, for you have not passed this way before."

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- ◆ This is a relatively short walk & they have a lot of things going for them...
- ◆ ...And all they have to do is follow the Ark ~ no big deal, right?
- ◆ Why would God command this?

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- ◆ What was the Ark?
- ◆ A box 2 ¼' high & wide, and 3 ¾' long
- ◆ Covered in gold
- ◆ 2 angels on top

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- ◆ What was in the Ark?
- ◆ Stone tablets that God's finger wrote the Law on
- ◆ A pot of manna
- ◆ Aaron's rod

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- ◆ What was the purpose of the Ark?
- ◆ The “mercy seat”
- ◆ God’s presence was enthroned there

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- ◆ God put this out in front of everyone so they could all see it; why?
- ◆ Because...
- ◆ God goes *before* us

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- ◆ God goes *with* us
- ◆ We are short-sighted
- ◆ He is reminding them that he is OTHER
- ◆ It's only God's presence that makes them different
- ◆ It's an invitation to join God in His work
- ◆ Because God is the God of crossing over
- ◆ Having a great theology of God is good & important

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- ◆ But what about when we have to cross over?
- ◆ We tend to be people of comfort & low risk
- ◆ God wants us to be cross-over people; faith people
- ◆ Will we rest in the truth that God's Providence has brought us to this difficult crossing & will we obey?

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- ◆ We can know it's the wilderness & still choose to stay!
- ◆ *“We see people who become their pain”*
- ◆ What were they crossing into?
- ◆ What are you crossing over & into?
- ◆ Cross over with God so He can display even more power, care & presence in your life!

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- ◆ “You haven’t been this way before”
- ◆ There’s a time when everything we have & are fails us
- ◆ Are you at this place? Have you been this way before?

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Joshua 3:14-17 (English Standard Version)

¹⁴So when the people set out from their tents to pass over the Jordan with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people, ¹⁵and as soon as those bearing the ark had come as far as the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the brink of the water (now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest), ¹⁶the waters coming down from above stood and rose up in a heap very far away, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, and those flowing down toward the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. And the people passed over opposite Jericho. ¹⁷Now the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firmly on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan, and all Israel was passing over on dry ground until all the nation finished passing over the Jordan.

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- ◆ Step into the water! The waters piled up, the ground dried up when they were stepping in & EVERYONE passed by
- ◆ This is New Testament faith =
- ◆ Intellectual & practical
- ◆ The Jordan is at flood stage & is treacherous
- ◆ Not only belief in something, but faith unto action!

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- ◆ Sproul ~ “Faith alone saves, but faith that saves is never alone.”
- ◆ Mueller ~ “The beginning of anxiety is the end of faith, and the beginning of faith is the end of anxiety.”

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- ◆ Open the door, say the word, have the meeting, make the call, trust the Lord
- ◆ What will God do? (v 10)
- ◆ All the people passed by ~ and their testimony is there for us today

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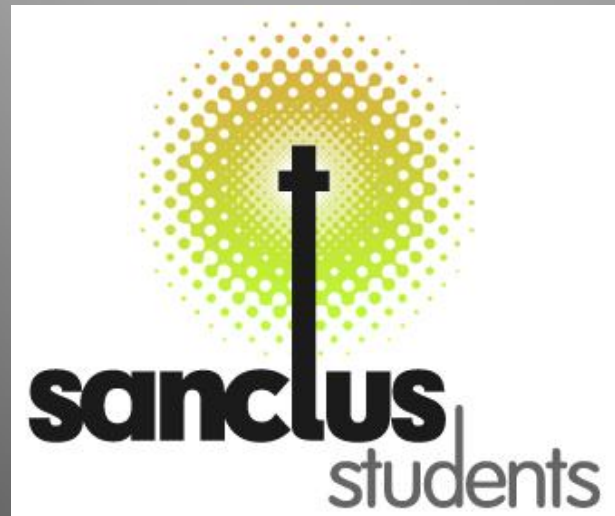
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CROSS OVER!



Sanctus Summer Mission Trip

Mc Allen, TX ~ June 6th-11th



- **Why?** To work on impoverished homes, conduct VBS, and more!
- **Who?** Students in grades 7-12
- **How Much?** Total cost is \$215 per person ~ first deposit of \$50 is due NOW!

FAMILIES @ THE SANCTUARY

SUNDAY, MAY 23RD

Please sign up online at
thesanctuaryfellowship.com
if you are interested in
having your family
dedicated to the Lord.



If you have a
graduating high school
senior, we want to
bless them! Email us at
students@thesanctuaryfellowship.com.



Helping Hands



Food Drive to Benefit Helping Hands

Every Sunday in May, bring food and baby items to minister to our community through the Helping Hands ministry in Rosenberg. You can pick up a shopping list at the Resource Center today.



LADIES MINISTRY

* Mother-Daughter Luncheon ~

Saturday, May 22 @ 11:30

* To sign up online, go to

ladies@thesanctuaryfellowship.com

* Ladies Bible Study ~ Monday, May 17 @ 7 PM

* Pebble Creek Ranch Clubhouse

* Frazzled Female ~ Thursday, May 20

* Moms of preschoolers meet us at the
Greatwood Chick-Fil-A at 9 AM