

## COURAGE

These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family, and/or with a group.

**BOLDNESS IS NEEDED TO POSSESS ALL GOD IS WILLING TO GIVE. THIS STUDY OF JOSHUA WILL CALL INDIVIDUALS AND CHURCHES TO THE KIND OF COURAGE THAT CROSSES RIVERS, FACES GIANTS, AND CLAIMS THEIR FULL INHERITANCE.**

**1** Life often presents moments where one must choose to either stay where they are or attempt to go where they want to be. What makes the choice difficult is that there is a barrier between “are” and “want to be” that will require courage to cross. What are some of the barriers you’ve faced in your journey to a better future?

**Read Joshua 1:9 & 1 Corinthians 16:13** How have verses like these inspired you to have the courage to cross?

**2 WE ARE OFTEN PUT... in situations where timidity would stay put. Read Joshua 3:1-3, 5, 15a).** The Israelites faced an immediate obstacle as the river to their new future was at flood stage (it was not an optimal time to cross). When have you been tempted to let the river make the call and “stay put” instead of listening to the call of God?

**3 RIVER CROSSERS... let God lead the way.** The Israelites spent three days camping beside the river before Joshua gave them these instructions. **Read Joshua 3:9-13.** Why did God have them camp beside the river for three days? What message was He giving them by mentioning the ark of the covenant?

**4 RIVER CROSSERS... get ready to be amazed!** Joshua was leading a nation that for the most part had no memory of the Red Sea experience. That’s one of the reasons he reminded them, “tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you” (Joshua 3:5). Every generation needs its own “crossing moment”. What

are some “amazing things” you’ve seen God do among His people recently and what lessons have you learned in the process?

**5 RIVER CROSSERS... set their feet in the water! Read Joshua 3:15b-16a.** The water did not stop flowing because they walked beside the river, but because they walked into it. They didn’t experience the miracle until they started walking (their faith moved them to get their feet wet). Share an example of how you’ve seen someone walk by faith recently. How have you experienced this in your life?

**6** Faith moves toward the future in spite of the river because of its confidence that God will make a way. Rick mentioned that “River crossers let feelings follow their obedience; they don’t allow obedience to follow their feelings.” Sometimes you have to do things even when you don’t feel like it. Staying put may feel safer, but your soul will dry up if your feet never get wet. So, where do you need to get your feet wet?

**Close in Prayer:** Remember, **it takes courage to go to “a cross.”** Your cross is the journey you would never take if you were not following Jesus. There will always be excuses to stay put. Read **2 Timothy 1:7** and close in prayer by praising God for being bigger than any river on our path and by remembering the we serve a mission greater than any fear we face. Ask God to give you the courage to cross...

