

CROSSING OVER

Joshua 1:1–9; Joshua 3:7–17

Moses is gone. The past chapter has closed. And now God invites the people to move forward, across the Jordan River and into a future they can't fully see yet. Change is rarely comfortable. Even good change can feel unsettling when we don't know what's on the other side.

Day 1: Read Joshua 1:1–5.

Moses is gone. A defining chapter in Israel's life has ended, but God's work has not. When one season ends and another begins, what helps you remember that God's presence and work continue?

Day 2: Read Joshua 1:6–9.

Three times Joshua hears the words, "Be strong and courageous."
Where in your life do you need courage?

Day 3: Read Joshua 3:1–6.

Before Israel crosses the Jordan, Joshua tells the people to prepare themselves. What might God need to prepare in you before you are ready for what comes next?

Day 4: Read Joshua 3:7–13.

The priests carrying the ark are told to walk toward the Jordan while the river is still flowing. Where might God be inviting you to take a faithful step before you can clearly see what comes next?

Day 5: Read Joshua 3:14–17.

The priests step into the river, the waters stop, and the people cross together on dry ground.
Who has helped make it possible for you to move forward in faith?
Where might God be asking you to help someone else cross into something new?

Day 6: Read Joshua 4:1–9.

After the crossing, Israel gathers stones so future generations will ask and learn what God had done for God's people.
What stories of God's faithfulness do you want to make sure are remembered, and how can you help others learn and remember?

God says to Joshua: "*Be strong and courageous.*" Not because the path is easy, but because God promises to go with you. Faith often begins with a step. And sometimes, the water doesn't part until we move.

God meets us at the edge of change and calls us forward in trust.

LEARNING TO TRUST

Joshua 6:1–20

Jericho doesn't fall the way anyone expects. No battle plans. No heroic charge. Just walking, waiting, and listening. This strange story reminds us that trusting God often means letting go of our assumptions about how things *should* work.

Day 1: Read Joshua 5:13–15.

When Joshua encounters a mysterious commander and asks whether he is “for us” or “for our enemies,” the answer is surprising.

When are you most tempted to ask God to take your side, instead of seeking first where God may be leading?

Day 2: Read Joshua 6:1–5.

God's instructions for Jericho hardly sound like a military strategy.

What makes trusting God difficult when the path ahead does not make sense to you?

Day 3: Read Joshua 6:6–11.

Israel follows God's instructions, but nothing happens right away.

Where in your life might patient waiting be more important than immediate results?

Day 4: Read Joshua 6:12–16.

For six days, Joshua leads the people in repeating the same pattern.

How can faithful repetition become a spiritual practice that helps you focus your life on God's direction?

Day 5: Read Joshua 6:17–21.

The destruction of Jericho is one of the difficult stories of Scripture, representing an ancient worldview and terrible violence.

How do you respond when you encounter a passage of Scripture that troubles or challenges what you believe about God and/or humanity?

Day 6: Read Joshua 6:22–27.

Amid the destruction, Joshua remembers a promise and welcomes an outsider and prostitute, Rahab, into the community.

Where might God be widening your understanding of who belongs?

Obedience may seem simple, but it requires patience, humility, and faith that God is at work even when progress feels slow or invisible. We reflect on what it means to trust God's way instead of relying only on our own strategies, and how faith is formed through practices that don't always make immediate sense.

Trust grows when we learn to listen and follow, even when the path feels strange or unusual.

FAILURE, GRACE, AND SECOND CHANCES

Joshua 7:1–13; Joshua 8:1–8,30–35

Not every step forward goes smoothly. After victory comes failure. After confidence comes setback. The story of Ai reminds us that God’s people are still human and capable of mistakes, fear, and broken trust. But failure is not the end of the story.

Day 1: Read Joshua 7:1–5.

Israel may have expected the next victory to come easily, but instead faces a setback. When has past success made you more likely to rely on yourself instead of seeking God’s direction?

Day 2: Read Joshua 7:6–9.

Joshua responds to defeat with grief and confusion, asking God why this has happened. What failures or struggles do you need to bring before God?

Day 3: Read Joshua 7:10–13.

God says Israel can’t stand against its enemies because of its own sin. Where might honesty be the first step toward healing or restoration in your life?

Day 4: Read Joshua 7:14–26

The punishment of Achan and his household is a deeply difficult passage in Joshua. How can wrestling with a difficult passage deepen rather than weaken our faith?

Day 5: Read Joshua 8:1–8.

After failure, God’s first words to Joshua are familiar: “Do not fear or be dismayed.” Where might God be inviting you not just to try again, but to try again differently?

Day 6: Read Joshua 8:30–35.

After Ai, Joshua gathers the entire community and returns to the words of God’s covenant. What helps you return to God and re-center your life after you have made a mistake or lost your way?

God meets people not with abandonment, but with truth, grace, and a path toward restoration. Faithful communities are not perfect communities. They are honest ones, willing to face failure and begin again.

God’s grace is bigger than our mistakes, and faithfulness includes learning how to return.

WHO WILL YOU SERVE?

Joshua 24:14–25

At the end of the journey, Joshua gathers the people and asks a simple, challenging question: *Who will you serve?* The promise has been fulfilled, but faith still requires a response.

Day 1: Read Joshua 24:1–7.

Joshua tells the story of what God has already done.

What moments in your own story remind you that God was at work before you ever knew where the journey would lead?

Day 2: Read Joshua 24:8–13.

God reminds Israel of what they have received from God in the past.

What have you received from generations before you that you hope to steward faithfully for generations still to come?

Day 3: Read Joshua 24:14–15.

Joshua invites the people of God to choose to serve the Lord.

What most competes with God for your trust, attention, or loyalty in everyday life?

Day 4: Read Joshua 24:16–18.

The people answer Joshua by remembering what God has done for them.

What story of God's faithfulness strengthens your desire to continue following God?

Day 5: Read Joshua 24:19–24.

Joshua warns the people: serving God is more than simply saying the right words.

Where is there most often a gap between the faith we intend to live and the faith we actually practice?

Day 6: Read Joshua 24:25–33.

Scripture says that Israel continued serving God throughout Joshua's lifetime and the lifetime of those who remembered what God had done.

If people look back sixty years from now, what do you hope they will say this generation faithfully passed on to them?

Commitment to God is more than a one-time decision. It's a daily choice. In a world full of competing loyalties, Joshua reminds us that faith is practiced again and again, in ordinary moments and real-life decisions. The journey doesn't end with arrival at some mountaintop moment. It continues every day as we choose faithfulness together.

Faith is not just about where we've been; it's about who we choose to follow each day.