



Moving Forward By Faith

Series: *The Venture and Victory of Faith*, Book of Joshua (#4)

Text: Joshua 3:1-17

Pastor Lyle L. Wahl

January 28, 2024

Theme: **God provides our needs as we follow Him by faith.**

Move forward following the Leader.

1. God gave Joshua and Israel directions to follow.
(7-8, 9-13; see also 4:15-16; 5:2, 9, 13-15; 8:30-35, etc.)
2. God gives us directions to follow.
(Deuteronomy 4:5-6; 6:1-12; Psalm 18:28; 48:14; 119:105; Proverbs 2:1-11; John 14:15-26; Romans 16:19; 2 Corinthians 9:13; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; James 1:5-8; 3:13-18)

Move forward with careful preparation.

1. Consecrate yourselves.
(5; see also 7:13; Exodus 19:10-11; Leviticus 11:44-45; 19:2; 2 Timothy 2:20-23; 1 Peter 1:14-16)
2. Plan.
(1-6, 9-13; see also 8:3-8; Luke 14:25-32; Acts 16:6-10; Romans 1:13; James 4:13-17)

Move forward in obedient, confident faith.

1. God goes ahead of you.
(11; see also 1:3; 6:2; Ephesians 2:10)
2. God will confirm His direction and work for you.
(7; 8-14; 6:17-25; Genesis 45:4-8; 50:20; Acts 2:22-36; 16:6 ff.)
3. So, *step into the water!*
(14-17; see also John 3:16; Acts 8:26-40; 16:25-34)
4. God will fulfill His promises to you.
(14-17; see also 2:1-24 compare with 6:1-27; 8:1; 10:8-14; 21:43-45; 2 Corinthians 1:20)

In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

Monday. Read 1:1-9 and 3:1-17. God promised the land to Abraham almost seven hundred years earlier. After being enslaved and wandering, now it was time to move forward following the Leader — God. God is your leader. He has given you directions to follow in His word. The Holy Spirit instructs you and guides you. Are you consciously, actively following Him today ... in everything?

Tuesday. Joshua chapter 3 reminds us to move forward with careful preparation. This is true for all days and situations, not just *big* or *important* times. Think about what it means to consecrate yourself daily (see the Bible references in the outline). Careful preparation also includes planning. Faith and planning are partners. True faith is never an excuse not to think and plan ahead.

Wednesday. We are to move forward in obedient, confident faith. We can do that because God goes ahead of us. God goes with us, but He also goes ahead of us—He knows and prepares the way for us. Is this a vital part of your thinking each day? God also will confirm His direction and work for you, in His time and way. Read through the Scripture references about this in the outline.

Thursday. Because God goes ahead of you and confirms His direction and work for you, *step into the water!* Step out in faith in your thoughts, words and actions to follow God. Our entire relationship with God on earth is by God's grace *through faith*. Are you holding back stepping out in faith in something because of fear, or ? ? Step out in faith now. As Joshua said, "Not one good promise which the LORD had made to the house of Israel failed [or, *has made to you*]; it all came to pass" (21:45, NASB).

Friday–Saturday. On Sunday we plan to continue in Joshua with 4:1 – 5:15. Read through these verses as part of your preparation for our time of worship together.