

APRIL 3

GOD STOPPED THE JORDAN RIVER (JOSHUA 3–4)

RECAP

Christ Connection

God was with Joshua and the Israelites as they went into the promised land. He showed His power to them so they would trust in Him. When Jesus came to earth, He showed His power so people would trust in Him and be saved from sin.

Big Picture Question:

Preschool: God encouraged Joshua and promised to be with him. Joshua led God's people into the promised land, where they would find rest. We have true rest in Jesus, who is with us always. Jesus leads us into the promised land of God's kingdom.

Elementary: God encouraged Joshua and promised to be with him as he led the Israelites into the promised land, where they would be victorious and find rest. We have victory over sin and rest for our souls in Jesus, who is with us always and leads us into the promised land of God's kingdom.

Key Passage:

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Psalm 119:105

THE GOSPEL PROJECT @HOME

FAMILY WORSHIP

Consider doing this during a designated time each week or before/after a meal together.

Read all or parts of Joshua 3-4 from the Bible, talk about the scripture, pray and do the fun activity or family serve project this week.

The Gateway Arch stands 630 feet tall over the city of St. Louis, Missouri. Built in 1963, the arch is made of concrete and steel, and it weighs more than 43 tons! This impressive monument is meant to remember and celebrate the westward expansion of the United States that connected the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. It is known as the "Gateway to the West."

Monuments like the Gateway Arch are meant to help people remember, but this idea is actually much older. After God miraculously stopped the Jordan River for the Israelites to pass through, He gave Joshua specific instructions for building a monument. The Israelites took 12 stones from the middle of the river, and they built a monument to remember what God had done. Whenever someone asked why those stones were there, the Israelites could retell the stories of their strong and mighty God.

Psalm 78:4 says, "... tell a future generation the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, his might, and the wondrous works he has performed." Remembering the awesome things God has done helps us to trust Him. We can also tell others about His wondrous works—like how He sent Jesus to save us from our sin—so that they might believe in Him.

God went ahead of Joshua and the Israelites into the promised land. He showed His power to them so they would trust in Him. When Jesus came to earth, He showed His power so people would trust in Him and be saved from sin.

***Pray:** Lord, we praise You because You have done great things! Help us remember all the awesome things You have done and to share those stories with others to help them know You.*

FAMILY PRAYER

Mornings

Praise God for one of His awesome works you've learned about from the Bible. How does remembering God's works teach us more about who He is and what He can do for us?

Evenings

Praise God for one way He helped you today. How can God's help today remind you to trust Him tomorrow? How can sharing the story of God's work in your life help others trust in Him?

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

For Fun

Make a memorial wall in your home. Use objects, photos, or drawings to help your family remember the awesome things God has done in and through your family. Take time sharing the stories to one another and praising God for His goodness.

To Serve

Visit an elderly church member. As you share a meal or visit together, ask the person to share stories of God's faithfulness to him or her. Encourage kids to ask questions and listen to learn more about who God is and how He displays His power.