



*The #1 catalyst for spiritual growth is reading and reflecting on the Bible.
Use these questions for personal study or as part of a community group experience.*

INTRODUCTION

01/17/2016

Standing still while others pass by may not seem that spiritual, but in Joshua chapter 3, standing still fulfills God's purpose. Instead of racing to the Promised Land, the priests empower the rest of Israel to enter first.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. The bridge has been a fixture on stage for the past three weeks. What has the bridge symbolized to you?
2. Read Joshua 3. Who needed the most faith to follow Joshua's instruction to cross the Jordan? Why?
3. What does the ark symbolize? What does it contain? (Exodus 25:10-22; Numbers 7:89)
4. Priests play an essential role in Israel's history, what function(s) did they serve?
5. The faith of one person often prepares the way for faith in another. Have you found this to be true? How has someone else's faith impacted you—negatively or positively?

6. Following from a distance of about 1000 yards, most of Israel can see the ark as they descend into the Jordan River bed. Perspective has a massive impact on faith. Based on Sunday's message, how would you define a limited or small perspective?

7. Throughout the biblical narrative the presence of God radically transforms and expands one's perspective. Why is this the case? (Isaiah 55:8-9; 64:4; Job 38:1-4)

8. God calls Israel, and the church, to a great and significant purpose. Summarize Exodus 19:16 and 1 Peter 2:9. Does this passage apply to all Christians? Or could you make an argument that it's only for the select?

9. Who has been most influential in your spiritual journey? How did they serve or encourage you?

10. What do you feel needs to take place in your own life before considering yourself ready to serve others?

11. With a wall of water building just north of them, the priests stand in the middle of the Jordan allowing all Israel to cross into the Promised Land first. How can you use your life to help others enter their Promised Land?

MOVING FORWARD

A godly plan must be bigger than yourself. You are called to serve others! This week, as you consider your journey and plan for 2016 identify meaningful ways that you can serve others. How will you allow your faith—big or small—to help guide and encourage others?