

**“Go: Living a Life of Courage, Obedience, and Faith”
Part 3 – A Lesson on Living a Life of Faith**

Joshua 4:1-24

Series Summary

Our main objective through this series is to examine different examples of **Courage, Faith, and Obedience** in the life of Joshua. These examples will help us understand how we can live a similar life of courage, faith, and obedience even in the most difficult of trials that we must face. Where does our courage come from in these times? It comes from the promise of the Living God for all of those who choose to seek Him, obey Him, and Carry out His Will.

Big Idea: The Faithful Always Remember and Fear the Lord

Series Theme Passage

- **Joshua 1:9** – Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

Living a Life of Faith

Lesson #1 – The Faithful Always Remember

- **Joshua 4:1-7** – ¹ When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua, ² "Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, ³ and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan from right where the priests stood and to carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight." ⁴ So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe, ⁵ and said to them, "Go over before the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, ⁶ to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, 'What do these stones mean?' ⁷ tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD . When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever."

Lesson #2 – The Faithful Always Say Thank You

- **Joshua 4:8-9** – ⁸ So the Israelites did as Joshua commanded them. They took twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, as the LORD had told Joshua; and they carried them over with them to their camp, where they put them down. ⁹ Joshua set up the twelve stones that had been in the middle of the Jordan at the spot where the priests who carried the ark of the covenant had stood. And they are there to this day.

Lesson #3 – The Faithful Are Always Willing

- **Joshua 4:10-13** – ¹⁰ Now the priests who carried the ark remained standing in the middle of the Jordan until everything the LORD had commanded Joshua was done by the people, just as Moses had directed Joshua. The people hurried over, ¹¹

and as soon as all of them had crossed, the ark of the LORD and the priests came to the other side while the people watched. ¹² The men of Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh crossed over, armed, in front of the Israelites, as Moses had directed them. ¹³ About forty thousand armed for battle crossed over before the LORD to the plains of Jericho for war.

Lesson #4 – The Faithful Are the Living Stones

- **Joshua 4:19-24** – ¹⁰ Now the priests who carried the ark remained standing in the middle of the Jordan until everything the LORD had commanded Joshua was done by the people, just as Moses had directed Joshua. The people hurried over, ¹¹ and as soon as all of them had crossed, the ark of the LORD and the priests came to the other side while the people watched. ¹² The men of Reuben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh crossed over, armed, in front of the Israelites, as Moses had directed them. ¹³ About forty thousand armed for battle crossed over before the LORD to the plains of Jericho for war.
- **1 Peter 2:4-5,9** – ⁴As you come to him, the living Stone--rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him-- ⁵you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Memory Verse

- **Joshua 4:24** – He did this so that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the LORD is powerful and so that you might always fear the LORD your God."

Series Application

Remember the Lord: As we approach the end of the year and anticipate the trials and triumphs that will accompany a new year then take a moment each week through this series and begin making a list of the different ways that God has blessed, provided, encouraged, or strengthened you. Put this list in your Bible and continue to add to it. Courage, Faith, and Obedience all have this in common: **Remember the Lord!**

