

CROSSING THE JORDAN

Joshua 3-4:7

Joshua 3

¹Early in the morning Joshua and all the Israelites set out from Shittim and went to the Jordan, where they camped before crossing over. ²After three days the officers went throughout the camp, ³giving orders to the people: “When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests, who are Levites, carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it. ⁴Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before. But keep a distance of about a thousand yards between you and the ark; do not go near it.”

⁵Joshua told the people, “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you.”

⁶Joshua said to the priests, “Take up the ark of the covenant and pass ahead of the people.” So they took it up and went ahead of them.

⁷And the LORD said to Joshua, “Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel, so they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses. ⁸Tell the priests who carry the ark of the covenant: ‘When you reach the edge of the Jordan’s waters, go and stand in the river.’”

⁹Joshua said to the Israelites, “Come here and listen to the words of the LORD your God. ¹⁰This is how you will know that the living God is among you and that he will certainly drive out before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites and Jebusites.

¹¹See, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth will go into the Jordan ahead of you.

¹²Now then, choose twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. ¹³And as soon as the priests who carry the ark of the LORD—the Lord of all the earth—set foot in the Jordan, its waters flowing downstream will be cut off and stand up in a heap.”

¹⁴So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them. ¹⁵Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests

who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water’s edge, ¹⁶the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. ¹⁷The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.

Joshua 4

¹When 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, ³and 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.”

⁴So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe, ⁵and 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, ⁶to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean?’ ⁷tell 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.”

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Joshua 3-4:7

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	QUESTIONS
5		1.) What were the Israelites supposed to follow across the Jordan River? (Verse 6)
5		2.) What happened when the priests' feet touched the water?
5		3.) Why did Joshua want each of the 12 men to pick up a stone from the Jordan River?
5		4.) Why do you think the Israelites followed the ark of the covenant across the Jordan River?

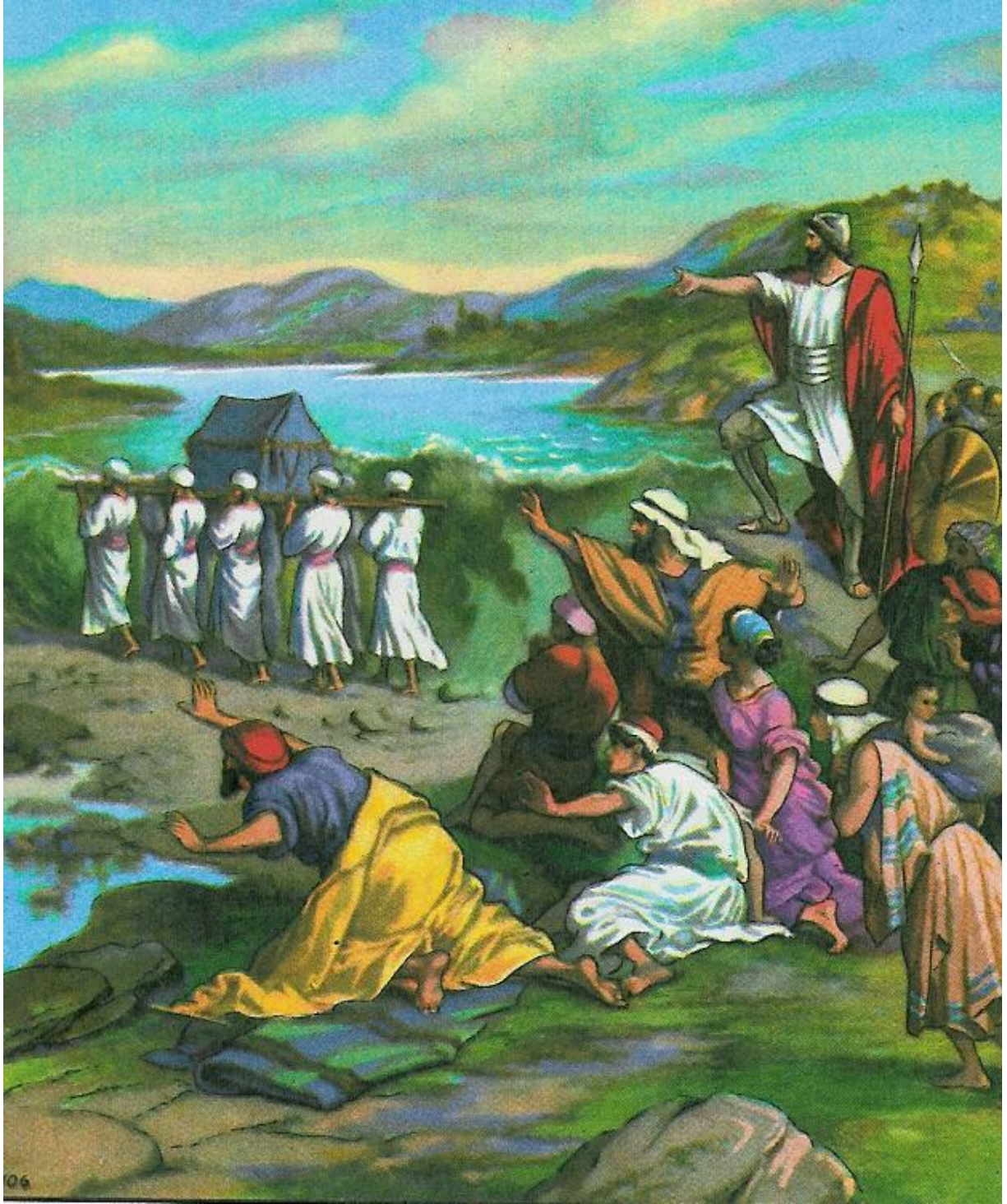
POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	MEMORY VERSE
10		<p>“I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Psalm 77:11</p>

POSSIBLE POINTS	MY POINTS	HOME CONNECTION	PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE
5		<i>I have read, or been read, the passage of scripture for this week.</i>	
5		<i>I have answered the questions aloud to an adult at home this week.</i>	
10		<i>I have recited the memory verse out loud to an adult at home this week.</i>	

TOTAL POINTS	CLUB CONNECTION
	LEADER'S SIGNATURE _____ DATE ___/___/___

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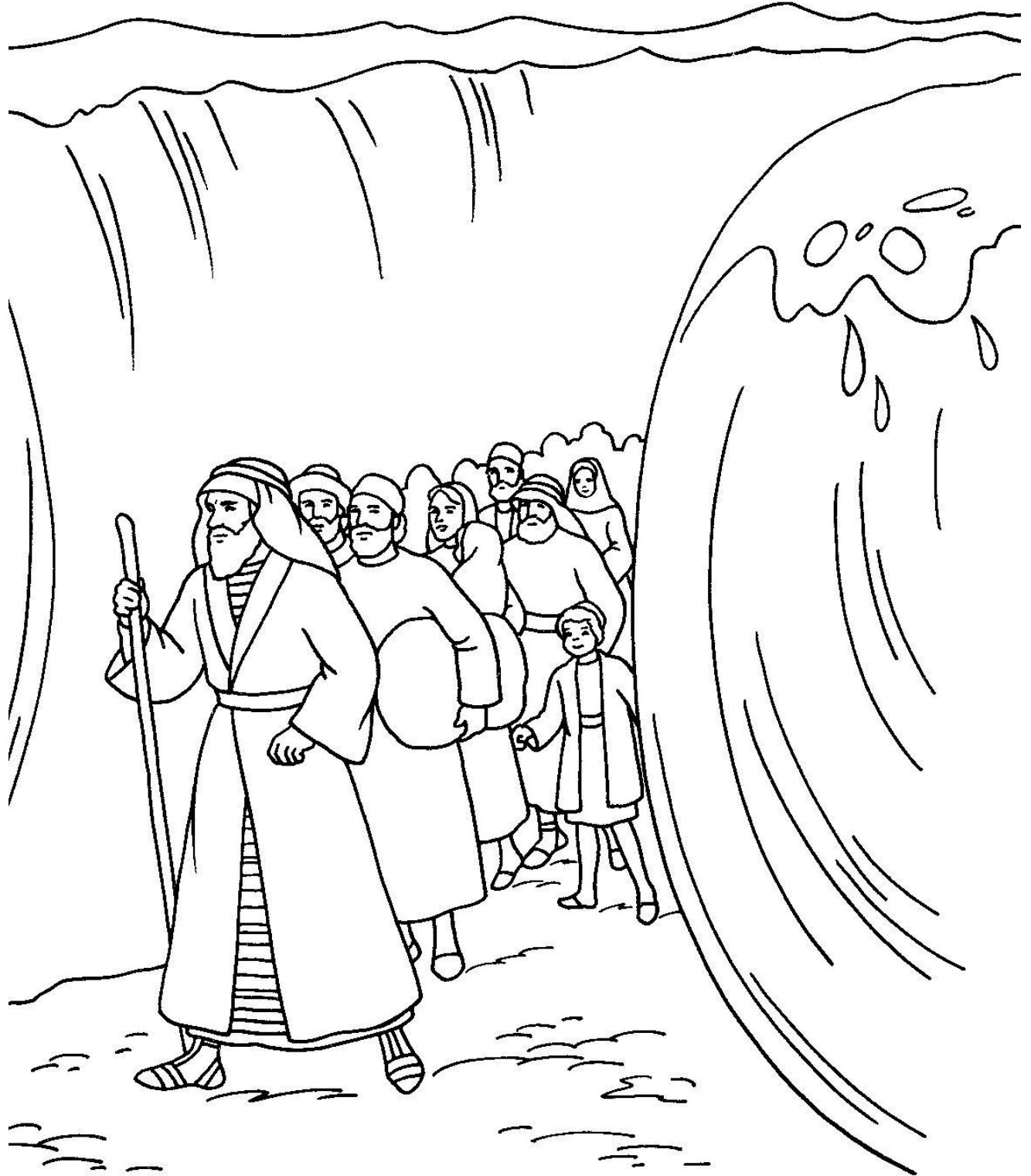
Joshua 3-4:7



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CROSSING THE JORDAN

Joshua 3-4:7



Joshua leads the Israelites through the Jordan River

CROSSING THE JORDAN

Joshua 3-4:7

CRAFT/ACTIVITY: REMEMBRANCE STONES

Students will make remembrance stones to help them remember that God is with them.

MATERIALS

1. Small River Rock
2. Acrylic Paints
3. Hair Dryer
4. Thin Black Permanent Marker
5. Paint Brushes



DIRECTIONS

1. Give each student a river rock
2. Allow students to paint them using acrylic paint.
3. Use a hair dryer to dry the paint.
4. Write a message on the rock using a thin permanent marker like: “God Loves Me, Remember Him, Love God, Pray, Seek Him, etc.”

FOR DISCUSSION

As students are painting their remembrance rocks, help them understand that the rocks that the 12 men took out of the Jordan River were to be used to remind the Israelites of how God was with them as they crossed the Jordan River. Encourage students to place their painted rocks in a place where they will see it each day. The rock will serve as a reminder much like the rocks were for the Israelites long ago.

TIME NEEDED TO COMPLETE:

Approximately 15 minutes

MEMORY VERSE

“I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago.” Psalm 77:11

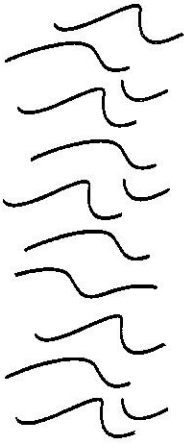
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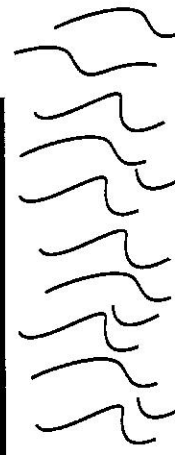
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The Lord caused the Red Sea to part and the Jordan River to stop flowing so the Israelites could cross over on dry ground. Use your calculators to find the square root of each number to discover the special reason why God performed such marvelous deeds.

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A	B	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	L
121	289	400	100	576	784	169	729	441	225
M	N	O	P	R	S	T	U	W	Y
484	196	841	361	256	529	676	144	625	324



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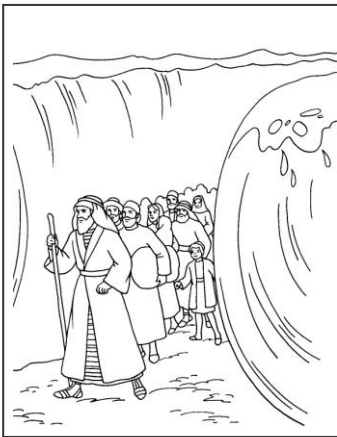
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THE BIBLE TIMES HERALD

A SPECIAL REPORT ON JOSHUA 3-4:7

CROSSING THE JORDAN



Early in the morning, the Israelites traveled to the Jordan River where they camped.

After three days, the officers went through the camp telling the people to get themselves ready to follow the ark of

the covenant across the river.

The Lord said to Joshua, "Take up the ark of the covenant and go ahead of the people. Today I will exalt you in the eyes of Israel so they may know that I am with you."

The priests carried the ark of the covenant ahead of the people all the way to the edge of the Jordan River. When the priests' feet touched the water, it stopped flowing. It piled in a heap a great distance away. The priests stood in the middle of the Jordan River as the Israelites crossed on dry ground.

When the whole nation of Israel had crossed the Jordan River, the Lord told Joshua to choose one man from each of the twelve tribes to gather stones from the Jordan River. So the twelve men gathered one stone each from the middle of the Jordan River and brought them to where they were staying. These stones would help their children remember what the Lord did by stopping the Jordan River so that the Israelites could safely cross it.

For more details, please read Joshua 3-4:7 in the Bible.

QUESTIONS

1. What were the Israelites supposed to follow?
2. What happened when the priests' feet touched the water?
3. Why did Joshua have the 12 men pick up stones from the Jordan River?
4. Why do you think the people followed the ark of the covenant across the Jordan River?

MEMORY VERSE

"I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago."
Psalm 77:11

MATCHING

1. JOSHUA ___ Spiritual leaders
2. STONES ___ The name of the river the Israelites crossed
3. JORDAN ___ Used to remember what God did for his people
4. ARK ___ What the people followed across the river
5. PRIESTS ___ The leader of God's people