

Bible in a Year Study Questions – Day 97 – April 7

Today's Readings:

Joshua 3 & 4

Psalm 42.1-5

Proverbs 13.17-18

Luke 9.1-17

1. Reflecting on the command to the Israelites to follow the ark of the covenant in Joshua 3, what significance does the ark hold in this context, and what does it symbolize for the Israelites as they prepare to cross the Jordan River?
2. Explore the concept of consecration and sanctification as described in verse 5. What does it mean for the Israelites to consecrate themselves before crossing the Jordan, and how does this preparation demonstrate their commitment to following God's lead?
3. Discuss the significance of the miracle of the Jordan River parting, as described in verses 14-17. How does this miraculous event parallel the crossing of the Red Sea during the Exodus, and what does it reveal about God's faithfulness to his promises and his power to deliver his people?
4. Discuss the importance of remembering and commemorating God's faithfulness, as described in verse 17. Why do you think God instructed Joshua to have twelve stones taken from the Jordan River as a memorial, and how can we apply this principle of remembrance in our own lives?
5. Reflecting on the overall theme of faith and obedience in Joshua 3, what lessons can we learn about trusting in God's guidance, following his lead even when faced with obstacles, and remembering his faithfulness in our lives?

6. Reflect on the significance of the twelve stones taken from the Jordan River as a memorial, as described in verses 1-9. What purpose did these stones serve, and why was it important for the Israelites to remember and commemorate God's faithfulness in this way?

7. Explore the concept of passing down faith and remembrance from one generation to the next, as emphasized in Joshua 4.6-7. How does the act of setting up the stones as a memorial provide an opportunity for parents to teach their children about God's mighty acts and his faithfulness to his people?

8. Reflect on the response of the Israelites to the miraculous crossing of the Jordan River, as described in verses 10-14. How does their recognition of God's power and faithfulness strengthen their faith and commitment to following him? How can we cultivate a similar spirit of gratitude and remembrance in our own lives?

9. Reflecting on Psalm 42.1 which compares the psalmist's longing for God to a deer panting for streams of water, what emotions and desires are expressed in this picture? How does the psalmist's thirst for God parallel our own spiritual yearning for closeness with Him?

10. Explore the imagery of the psalmist's tears being his food day and night, as described in verse 3. What might this reveal about the psalmist's state of distress and longing for God's presence? How do the psalmist's tears reflect his deep emotional connection to God?

11. Reflect on the memories of worship in the temple mentioned in verse 4. What significance do these memories hold for the psalmist, and how do they intensify his longing for God's presence? How can remembering past encounters with God sustain us during times of spiritual dryness or adversity?

12. Discuss the themes of hope and trust in verses 5. How does the psalmist encourage himself to trust in God's faithfulness and deliverance, even in the midst of distress and turmoil? How can we cultivate a similar attitude of hope and trust in God's promises during difficult times?

13. How does the psalmist's earnest desire for God's presence resonate with your own longing for deeper communion with Him? How can you cultivate a greater hunger and thirst for God in your daily life?

14. Proverbs 13.17 emphasizes the importance of relying on faithful messengers. What does this proverb teach us about the significance of trust and reliability in relationships? How can we cultivate trustworthiness in our own interactions with others?

15. Explore the concept of discipline and correction as described in verse 18. Why is it important to heed constructive criticism and learn from our mistakes? How can embracing correction lead to wisdom and growth in our lives?

16. Consider the promise of poverty and disgrace for those who reject discipline, as contrasted with the reward of honor for those who accept correction, as described in verse 18. What does this proverb teach us about the consequences of refusing to learn from our mistakes and heed wise counsel? How can we embrace discipline and correction as a means of spiritual growth?

17. In Luke 9.1, Jesus gives his disciples power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases. What significance does this impart to the disciples' mission? How does this demonstration of power reflect Jesus' authority and commission for spreading the Gospel?

18. Consider the instructions Jesus gives to the disciples in verses 3-5 regarding their journey. What principles of faith, trust, and dependence on God's provision can we glean from these

instructions? How can we apply these principles in our own lives as we seek to serve God's kingdom?

19. Explore the disciples' report of their ministry experiences upon returning to Jesus, as described in verses 6-10. How does their testimony reflect the fulfillment of Jesus' commission and the authority he had given them? How can our own experiences of God's work in and through us serve as a testament to his power and grace?

20. Reflect on the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand, as described in verses 11-17. What does this miracle reveal about Jesus' compassion for the physical needs of the crowd? How does Jesus' ability to multiply the loaves and fish demonstrate his divine power and provision?

21. Discuss the significance of the disciples' involvement in the miracle of the feeding of the five thousand, as described in verses 13-17. How does Jesus involve his disciples in the process of meeting the needs of the crowd? What lessons can we learn stewardship and faithfulness in serving others from this account?

22. Which passage in today's reading impacted you the most? Is there a verse you would like to memorize and/or meditate on today?