GOING OVER

JOSHUA

INTRO TO THE BOOK OF JOSHUA

* Book of transitions/ shifts
* People of Israel shift from nomads in the wilderness to the promised land
* Bondage to freedom
* Despair to hope
* Imperfect achievements
  + Rahab the Prostitute
  + Daughters of Achan (15:13-19)
  + Daughters of Zelophehad (17:3-6)
* Heavy military concentration
* god relates to the marginalized & dispossessed in ways that challenge any attempt to only view Him as harsh, judgmental, & punishing
* how Israel is to prevent Canaanite religious practices from infiltrating its own
  + polytheistic- Baal & Asherah

JOSHUA

* Moses has just died
* Was head of the military for Moses
* Received instructions from God to lead His people (1:2)
* Received the promised destination (1:3-4)
* Received the promise of God’s protection & provision (1:5)
* Received personal instructions from God (1:7-9)

CHAPTER 3

Miraculous cross-over

Everybody witnessed the miracle

Everybody participated in the miracle

* V-1 Early- Joshua led the people on their 1st transition from Shittim to the bank of the Jordan
* V2- Stayed 3 days
  + God told the people of Israel to wait three days at shores of the Jordan River ([Joshua 1:11](about:blank)).
  + River looked impossible to cross with millions of people
* V3- God is leading this! (not military; not Joshua)
  + Priests 1st carrying the Ark of The Covenant
  + Symbolic of God’s presence & promise
* V4- distance of about 1000 yards
  + Respect/ reverence
  + Clear view/ perspective; not too close (nearsighted), not too far (blind sighted)
  + Shows that the ark is leading the way
  + People are following the presence of God- not anything material
* V5- Sanctify yourselves
  + This is spiritual- requires a spiritual approach & spiritual preparation
* V6- Joshua’s 1st act of obedience
  + Sent the priests over 1st
* V7- God immediately reaffirms Joshua
  + Promotion comes with obedience
  + God will let you know & remind you He is with you
  + God upped the promise from being with Joshua to ***magnify thee in the sight of all Israel***
  + What looked or felt impossible will no longer look or feel impossible
  + God will raise you up to do what was impossible for others
* V9&10- Joshua gives credit to God to the people of Israel

Jordan River is at point of overflow at this time of year

Miracle for you is overflow- will you step in it?

Will you give God credit for the miracle?

Will you follow God & keep His perspective?