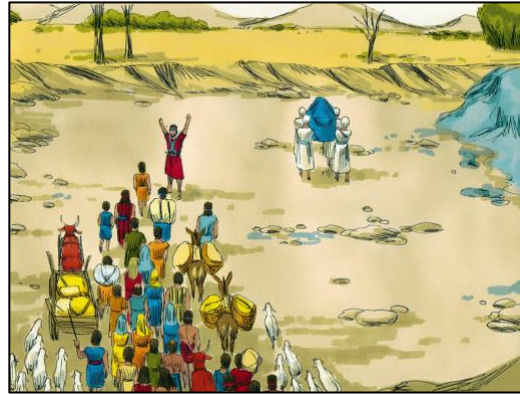


Watch this video:
<https://youtu.be/j5ifLZS0TTI>
(2:57) by B&H Publishing



CROSSING THE JORDAN (JOSHUA 3-4; 5:10-12)



The Bible says that there was a river to cross and the Israelites would finally be in the Promised Land.

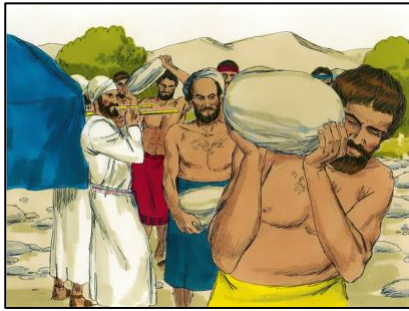
It was the time of year that the Jordan River was full of water. It overflowed its banks. The people could look across the river and see the beautiful land of Canaan with green grass, tall trees and fields of grain. But they could not cross the river. It was too deep and too swift.



The Lord had a special plan. He told Joshua to tell the priests to carry the ark of the covenant and walk straight into the Jordan river! This must have seemed scary but they obeyed God.

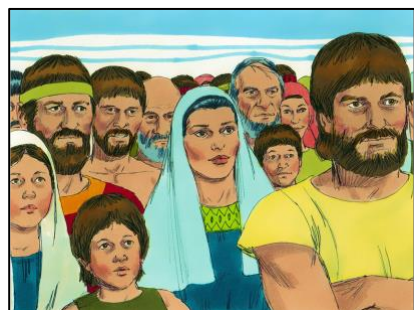
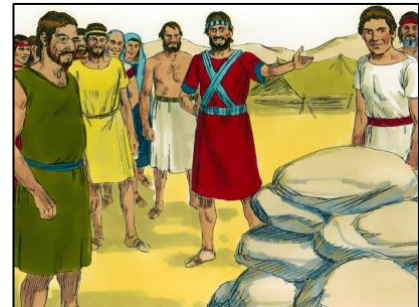


The priests carried the ark of the covenant toward the river. As soon as the priest's feet touched the water, the river stopped flowing. The water dried up! The priests stood with the ark, and all of the people passed through. They didn't even get wet.



God wanted the people to always remember how He stopped the Jordan River. He told Joshua to choose twelve men (one from each tribe.) The men walked to the middle of the dry riverbed, where the priests stood. Each of the men picked up one large stone.

The men carried the twelve stones to the other side of the river. They put them into a large pile. The Lord said that, from now on, when anyone saw the pile of 12 stones, they would remember what happened. The Lord helped them cross the Jordan River into the Promised Land.



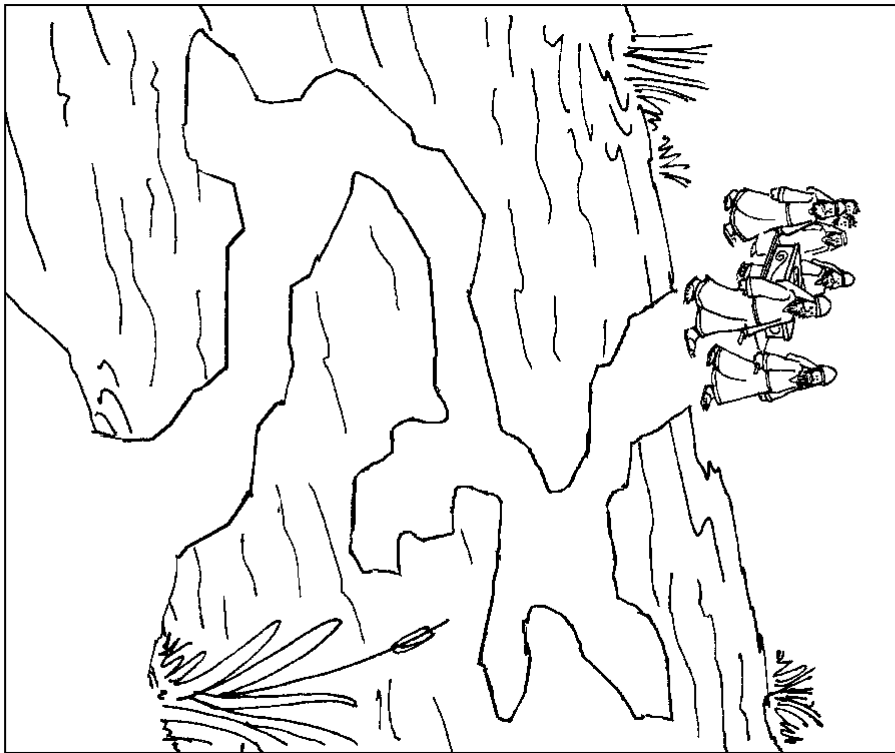
After everyone had crossed the river, the priests walked across too. As soon as their feet touched the other side of the river, the water all rushed back. The river flowed again - just as fast and deep as it had been before.

The Israelites made camp at Gilgal where they had put their stones. As everyone looked at the stones they must have thanked God and thought about what He had done for them.

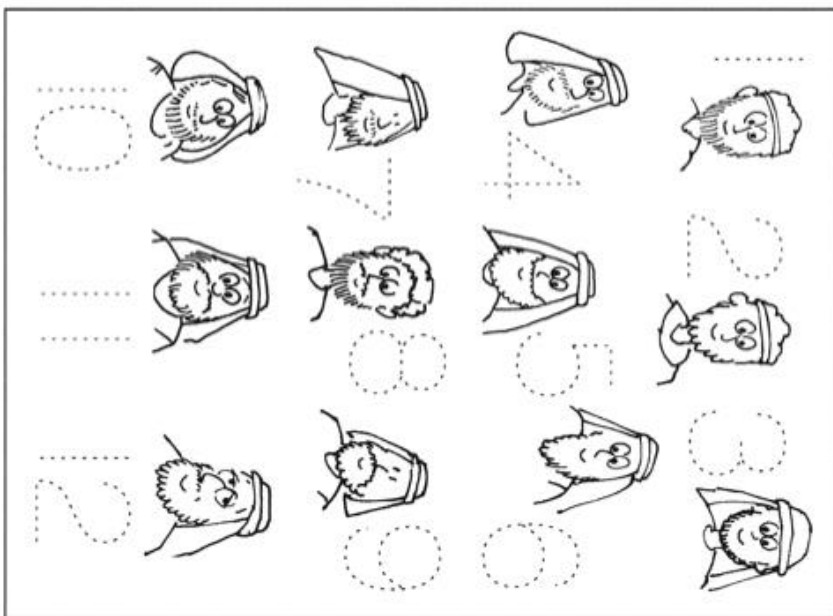
They were finally in the Promised Land! The people celebrated the Passover in their camp at Gilgal. They began to eat the good food of the land of Canaan, so the manna stopped. Now they were in the land of plenty – a land flowing with milk and honey! God had kept His promise!

Activities:

- 1.) Discuss: What is the purpose of a “Memorial?”
 - What did the pile of 12 stones help the Israelites remember?
 - What did the Passover help them remember?
 - Name other memorials that you know about.
- 2.) Do activities on pages 3 or 4.



Help the Israelites cross the Jordan.



12 Men Picked Up Stones
Trace the numbers.



What did Joshua tell the Israelites to answer when their future descendants asked, "What do these stones mean?"

Read the passage and find the underlined words in the puzzle.

Tell them, "Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground. When the ark of the covenant crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. For the Lord your God dried up the Jordan before you until you had crossed over. The Lord your God did to the Jordan just what He had done to the Red Sea when He dried it up before us until we had crossed over. These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever."

N	U	E	T	U	N	D	E	R	I	E	D	S	T	I
U	N	T	I	L	C	R	I	E	G	O	V	C	A	L
O	N	V	E	R	R	I	R	D	M	H	I	M	N	L
R	C	R	O	S	E	E	W	N	I	B	E	F	L	O
G	I	O	H	A	P	D	R	U	E	M	A	J	O	R
L	E	A	V	E	R	Y	O	O	E	M	L	G	O	D
A	R	K	L	E	S	T	I	R	E	M	L	V	A	S
R	O	C	L	A	N	J	I	G	L	O	R	E	F	I
J	A	R	W	C	I	A	R	T	K	F	U	R	Y	L
E	B	O	R	U	L	D	N	H	M	F	S	Z	O	E
S	I	S	O	T	I	P	A	T	H	O	N	W	L	E
U	T	S	E	N	G	R	E	S	A	T	I	C	K	E
I	S	S	E	N	O	T	S	R	E	T	A	W	E	R
F	S	S	D	P	S	S	R	E	T	A	H	Y	O	E
O	I	S	L	R	A	E	L	R	A	H	M	J	T	U
W	L	L	E	O	T	I	T	U	K	C	A	B	H	E

So the Israelites did as Joshua commanded them.

Solve the math problems. Then write the words from the pile of stones in order on the blanks.

3 x 4 = They took 12 stones from _____

4 + 4 _____

5 x 3 _____

13 - 6 _____

15 - 10 _____

3 x 8 _____

19 - 17 _____

7 - 4 _____

7 x 3 _____

1 + 5 _____

2 + 7 _____

15 + 8 _____

