

Video:  
[https://youtu.be/tT9Nf16al-g?si=EXlSdWffr-vNC\\_t5](https://youtu.be/tT9Nf16al-g?si=EXlSdWffr-vNC_t5)  
God's Story: Joshua Crosses River Jordan by Crossroad Kids



### Lesson #3: CROSSING THE JORDAN (Joshua 3-4; 5:10-12)



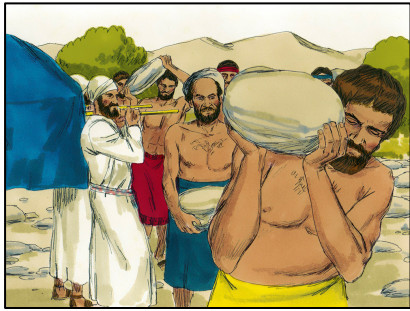
The Bible says that there was a river to cross and the Israelites would finally be in the Promised Land.

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.

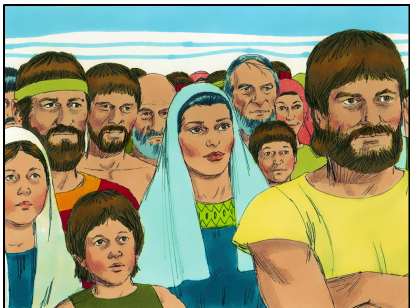


The priests carried the ark of the covenant toward the river. As soon as the priest's feet touched the water, the river stopped flowing. The water dried up! The priests stood with the ark, and all of the people passed through. They didn't even get wet.



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, 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. As everyone looked at the stones, they must have thanked God and thought about what He had done for them.

Joshua 4:24 says, "He (God) 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."

Can you think of other "MEMORIALS" that God has given to help us remember?

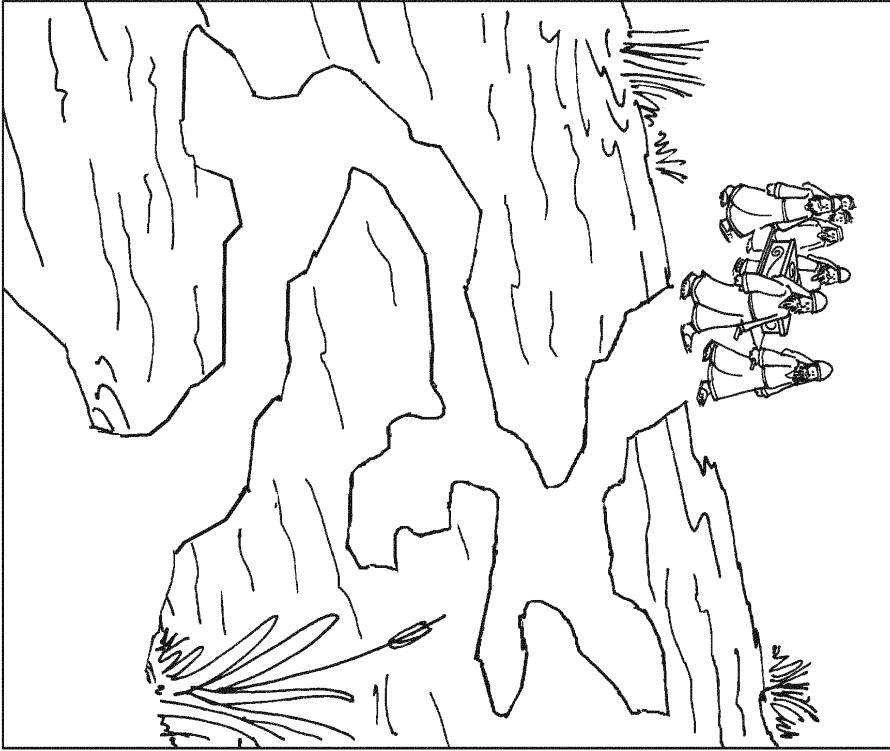


The Israelites were finally in the Promised Land! The people celebrated the Passover in their camp at Gilgal. They began to eat the good food of the land of Canaan, so the manna stopped. Now they were in the land of plenty – a land flowing with milk and honey!

**God was *WITH* His people!**  
**God's *POWER* had taken them into the Promised Land!**  
**God had kept His promise!**  
**He will keep His promise to help us too!**

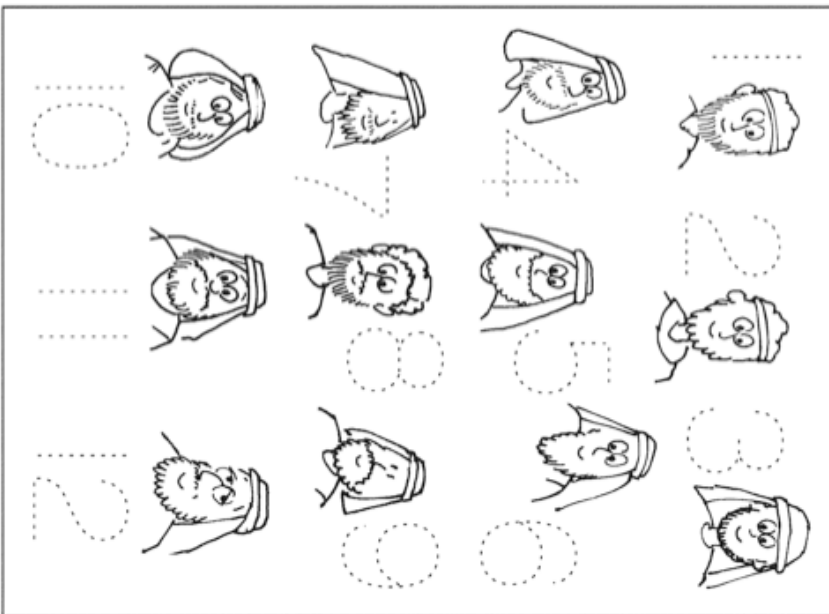
# PRIMARY GRADES ACTIVITY

Color the Israelites crossing the Jordan River.



12 Men Picked Up Stones

Trace the numbers.



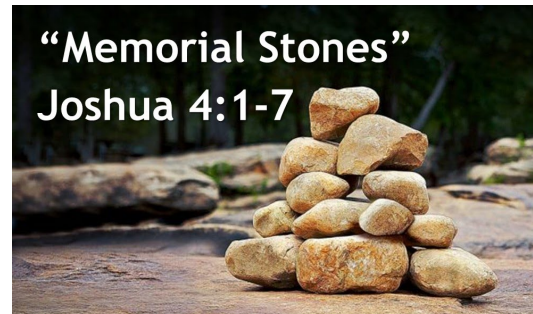
**Part 1: Read & Remember (Joshua 3) Fill in the blanks**

1. The Israelites crossed the \_\_\_\_\_ River.
2. The priests carried the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Covenant.
3. When the priests stepped into the water, the river \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The people crossed on \_\_\_\_\_ ground.



**Part 2: The 12 Stones (Joshua 4) Circle the correct answer**

1. How many stones were taken from the river?  
 5    10    12
2. Why did God tell them to make a pile of stones?  
 To decorate  
 To remember what God did  
 To build houses
3. Who were the stones meant to teach?  
 Only leaders  
 Future children  
 Enemies



**Part 3: Match the Meaning Draw a line to match the BEST meaning:**

- |                       |                               |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Ark of the Covenant | <b>Remembering God’s help</b> |
| • River stopping      | <b>Trusting God</b>           |
| • Stones              | <b>God’s power</b>            |
| • Obedience           | <b>God’s presence</b>         |



**Find Joshua 4:24 in your Bible. Fill in the missing words:**

“He did this so that all the \_\_\_\_\_ of the earth might know that the hand of the LORD is \_\_\_\_\_ and so that you might always \_\_\_\_\_ the LORD your God.”