

Step Into Scripture: Shadows

Day 85 Reading: Joshua 12–15 and Day 85 of Step Into Scripture

Week 13: The Second Crossing

This week's reading finally brings us to Israel's journey out from the wilderness and into the promised land. And in this narrative we find the importance of moving beyond past experiences to embrace new challenges. There are some key differences between the first crossing, which involved simply exiting Egypt, and the second crossing, which requires action and faith to enter the future. This phase of Israel's movement requires stepping into deeper waters of faith; and we can model these kinds of next steps as we serve with the church and fully commit to God's calling, despite facing potential obstacles or fears. While the first crossing was led by one, the second crossing requires a community effort, urging us to be proactive in aligning and moving together with God's people.

Discussion Questions:

1. What do you think it means to 'move your feet' in your faith journey?
 - The second crossing requires action, not just raising hands in worship but actively living out your faith.
 - Can you think of a specific situation in your life where you need to take action in your faith? What steps can you take to move forward?
2. How does the difference between exiting your past and entering your future relate to your personal growth?
 - Leaving Egypt is not the end of the journey; it's the beginning of a new phase that requires purpose and action.
 - What are some past experiences you need to let go of in order to embrace new opportunities or changes in your life?
3. Why do you think it's important to have a supportive community, as discussed when referring to the twelve men from Israel?
 - The first crossing was led by one person, but the second requires a teamwork approach with the right people around you.
 - Who are the people in your life that support you in your faith journey? How can you strengthen those relationships?
4. Reflect on Matthew 16:24-27. What does denying yourself and taking up your cross mean in practical terms for you?
 - These verses highlight the call to sacrifice and commitment in the pursuit of following Jesus.

- What is one thing you could sacrifice in your life to grow closer to Jesus and further into your purpose?
5. We may face obstacles, like the Jordan River, before moving into our future. What obstacles might you be facing right now?
- Just as the Israelites faced a raging river, we often encounter challenges that stand in the way of our next steps.
 - How can you approach these obstacles with faith instead of fear? What practical steps can you take to overcome them?

Prayer

- Ask for prayer requests from the group.
- Pray for courage to take the next steps God is calling each person to.
- Ask for guidance in identifying any obstacles keeping us from deeper faith.
- Pray for a stronger sense of community to walk together in faith.