

Unit 8 • Session 1 Crossing the Jordan

BIBLE PASSAGE: Joshua 1–4

STORY POINT: God held back the Jordan River for His people to cross.

KEY PASSAGE: Deuteronomy 31:8

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him.

Activity Starter: Part the water

Form pairs. Give each pair a ball. The kids in each pair will toss the ball back and forth, taking a step apart after each successful catch. Challenge the kids to see which pair can maintain tossing and catching from the greatest distance apart. **SAY***After each successful catch, you had to move apart. You may remember a few weeks back when we learned about God causing two sides of the Red Sea to move apart. Today we will learn about a time God helped His people cross another body of water. This time it was a river, but the people still crossed on dry ground!

Bible Story Video Discussion:

1. What did God tell Joshua as he became the new leader of the Israelites? (*Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid; Josh. 1:9*)
2. How did God help the people cross the Jordan? (*God stopped the flow of the water so that it piled up on one side, Josh. 3:16*)
3. What did Joshua do to remember the amazing thing God had done for His people? (*He instructed men from the twelve tribes to take 12 stones from the middle of the riverbed and set them up as a memorial, Josh. 4:3-7*)
4. Why do you think God helped His people cross the Jordan? *Guide kids to discuss the fact that most of the people who had seen God's amazing miracles in Egypt and at the Red Sea had died. God helped them cross the Jordan River in an amazing way to demonstrate His power to them and strengthen their faith in Him.*
5. Why do you think God wanted the people to have the stones to remember what He did for them? *Guide kids to discuss the fact that God proves His faithfulness again and again, but people tend to forget and walk into sin. God wanted them to have a reminder that He is good and trustworthy.*
6. God told Joshua to be strong and courageous and to obey His commands. What commands do Christians need strength and courage to obey? *Discuss the different commands Jesus talks about, such as loving God, loving people, sharing the gospel, and so forth.*

God held back the Jordan River for His people to cross. He is good and provides for His people. We see that very clearly in the way He sent Jesus for us.

Questions from kids video discussion: Prompt kids to think about amazing things God has done for them. Guide them to discuss ways they can share their stories of God's goodness with others.