

4 Steps of Courage into Uncharted Territory

Learning to Consecrate Yourself to the Mission of God.

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Series: Joshua 2025

Scripture: Joshua 3

Synopsis:

Join us as we explore Joshua 3 and discover how to follow God into uncharted waters with faith and courage. This inspiring message outlines four practical steps for navigating unknown paths: letting God lead, preparing yourself through full commitment, trusting His plan, and identifying obstacles with wisdom and faith. As we embark on the journey to our new land and building, this sermon will challenge and encourage you to step forward boldly, trusting in God's power, provision, and purpose every step of the way. Don't miss this powerful word about following the Lord into the extraordinary!

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Reliant is moving into uncharted territory.

- We have never built a community center before.
- We have never raised the amount of capital we need to build.
- We have never had as many people as the Lord is going to bring.
- In many ways we are in uncharted waters.

4 Steps of Courage on the Uncharted Path.

Joshua 3:1-3 ESV

1 Then Joshua rose early in the morning and they set out from Shittim. And they came to the Jordan, he and all the people of Israel, and lodged there before they passed over. 2 At the end of three days the officers went through the camp 3 and commanded the people, "As soon as you see the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God being carried by the Levitical priests, then you shall set out from your place and follow it."

I. Let God Lead the Way

Key Thought: The path may be unfamiliar to you, but God knows it intimately. Trust Him to go before you.

A. Follow the Leader:

1. Great leaders rise early to seek the Lord, ensuring they have something worth following.
2. The Lord is the guide into uncharted territory. Jesus described the religious leaders of his day as blind guides.

Matthew 15:14 ESV

14 Let them alone; they are blind guides. And if the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit.”

B. Follow the Lord

3. Follow His Word: The Bible is not just ancient; it’s a living, reliable roadmap.

Psalms 119:105 ESV

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

4. Follow His Spirit: The Holy Spirit whispers truth into your heart when the path feels unclear.

Joshua 3:4 ESV

4 Yet there shall be a distance between you and it, about 2,000 cubits in length. Do not come near it, in order that you may know the way you shall go, for you have not passed this way before.”

5. Don’t get out ahead of God

“Your present pathway is new to you, but it is not new to your God.”

C.H. Spurgeon. June 23, 1872

II. Prepare yourself.

Joshua 3:5 ESV

5 Then Joshua said to the people, “Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you.”

Key Thought: Preparation fuels the courage to step into the unknown.

A. Consecrate Yourself:

6. To consecrate means total dedication. Like the pig in breakfast, full commitment is required—not partial participation.
7. Walking with God into uncharted territory demands your whole heart.

Half-heartedness won't suffice.

B. Live in Expectation

8. Live in anticipation of the mighty works of God in and through your life.
9. When you take risks to follow the Lord, He rewards you with His wonders.

Joshua 3:7-8 ESV

7 The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. 8 And as for you, command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, 'When you come to the brink of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan.'"

10. Leader Lesson Two: Wherever God leads, He provides. As you experience His power, remember to give Him the glory.

III. Trust the Plan

Key Thought: God's instructions may defy logic, but they're always purposeful.

Joshua 3:9-13 ESV

9 And Joshua said to the people of Israel, "Come here and listen to the words of the Lord your God." 10 And Joshua said, "Here is how you shall know that the living God is among you and that he will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Hivites, the Perizzites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, and the Jebusites. 11 Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is passing over before you into the Jordan. 12 Now therefore take twelve men from the tribes of Israel, from each tribe a man. 13 And when the soles of the feet of the priests bearing the ark of the Lord, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off from flowing, and the waters coming down from above shall stand in one heap."

- A. As crazy as they might sound, they might just save your life.
- B. Trust the plan and know that God has a purpose for your life.

IV. Map out the obstacles.

Key Thought: Faith is not blind—it's intentional and informed.

- A. The spies scouted the Promised Land to identify challenges and confirm God's presence in the process.
- B. Recognizing obstacles doesn't mean doubting God; it's about

preparing wisely while relying on Him.

3 Takeaways

1. **Keep God in the Lead:** Trust His timing and direction, even when the way feels unclear.
2. **Fully Commit:** A life set apart for God is the foundation for courage in uncharted territory.
3. **Follow Faithfully:** Trust His plan, prepare for obstacles, and move forward in obedience.

R-Group Questions

1. What does it mean for you to let God lead in your current circumstances? Where might you need to step out of the driver's seat?
2. **How can you practically consecrate yourself this week to prepare for what God wants to do in and through you?**
3. What obstacles are you facing, and how can you map them out while trusting God to bring you victory?