



## **“It’s Time To Walk Through Water”**

### **1. READ**

**Scripture: Joshua 3:7-8, 14-16 New International Version (NIV)**

<sup>7</sup> And the LORD said to Joshua, “Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all Israel, so they may know that I am with you as I was with Moses. <sup>8</sup> Tell the priests who carry the ark of the covenant: ‘When you reach the edge of the Jordan’s waters, go and stand in the river.’”

<sup>14</sup> So when the people broke camp to cross the Jordan, the priests carrying the ark of the covenant went ahead of them. <sup>15</sup> Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water’s edge, <sup>16</sup> the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (that is, the Dead Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. <sup>17</sup>



## Suggested Chapters to Study This Week: Joshua 3

### REFLECT



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This Sunday we are blessed to have Pastor Tony Lee, Senior Pastor of the Community of Hope AME Church as our guest preacher. Pastor Lee encourages us this week from the Book of Joshua chapter 3 and his sermon title is “It’s Time To Walk Through Water”. In his introduction, Pastor Lee reminds us of the story of the children of Israel and their fight to get into the promise land. This group of people worked and believed for years that they would get into the land flowing with milk and honey but they need to cross the Jordan River. Pastor Lee shares that they were so close but yet so far. Pastor Lee says he feels this way right now. He feels as if he can see the promise of what we have prayed for and what we have believed God for, but it is still not here yet, even though it is close. This is also how some of us might feel now because we can see the promise land and we can see the land that we have prayed for but it seems to be on the other side of the river.



The good news that Pastor Lee is sharing this morning, is that the promise is close and with just a few keys we can get there. Pastor Lee quotes a speech from Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the SCLC Convention in 1967 where Dr. King said

*“Today another curious formula sees to declare that he is fifty percent of a person. Of the good things in life, the Negro has approximately one half those of whites. Of the bad things of life, he has twice those of whites.”*

Pastor Lee uses a quote that he calls “funny math” as Dr. King called it a curious formula to explain where we are today. Pastor Lee’s point here is that this funny math is shown in today’s world, one example is how African Americans haven’t received equal opportunities. Pastor Lee lists several examples in his sermon but he encourages us to know that we can follow the example of the children of Israel to get to the other side. Pastor Lee calls getting to the other side “Walking through the water.”

There are three lessons we see in the scripture according to Pastor Lee.

1. You Can Walk Through Water Because God **Said** It
2. You Can Walk Through Water Because God **Showed** It
3. You Can Walk Through Water Because We **Carry** The Glory

God used the children of Israel as an example for us to know that God plans for us to walk through water to the promise land and a better place. We need to have the faith to continue to move forward in the midst of trouble.



## 1. RESPOND

### **Introspective Questions**

- ï When was the last time you walked through the water?
- ï What is the promise land that God has shown you?

### **Discussion Questions**

- ï What do you think the children of Israel thought as they saw the Jordan river?
- ï How can you carry the glory to get to the other side?