

## **Crossing the Jordan Joshua 3:1-17**

### **I. The Lord has a plan for our lives.**

As we stand at the brink of this New Year our hearts should be filled with anticipation and challenge. Only God knows what the future holds, but the possibilities are endless. Joshua, though he is dead, still speaks to us today and challenges us to enter the New Year in the same way he and his people entered the Promised Land.

As we enter the New Year we should do so by determining to:

#### **A. Be Courageous**

*"...you have never been this way before" (Joshua 3:4).*

#### **B. Be Focused**

*"When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the Levitical priests carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it" (Joshua 3:3).*

#### **C. Be Holy**

*"Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you" (Joshua 3:5).*

#### **D. Be Obedient**

*"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" (Joshua 3:7).*

### **II. Through the story of the crossing the Jordan, the Lord teaches us three lessons:**

- A. God's ways are often surprising and challenging, but they are always the best and the most successful.
- B. God will always be with you in whatever He has called you to do.
- C. Your obedience always benefits others.