

When God Leads

Joshua 3:1-4

COULD IT BE THAT I HAVE GOTTEN IT WRONG ALL OF THESE YEARS?

Could it be that God doesn't want us to walk *with* Him at all?

The Bible says that the Lord does not call us to walk with Him, but to *follow* Him

“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.” Matthew 16:24

“Follow me as I follow Christ” 1 Corinthians 11:1

It was the call to follow that defined Joshua's life

God does not call you to walk side by side with Him as an equal; He calls you to follow Him as Lord

FOLLOW WHERE THE LORD LEADS, AND DON'T LOOK BACK

As He looked at the land across the Jordan River, Joshua was reminded that he had been in that place before

Joshua and Caleb were the only two who were confident that God would give His people the victory

The other spies lost their courage; they saw the obstacles and forgot God's promise

God's people were always tempted to look backwards instead of moving ahead in faith

FOLLOW WHERE THE LORD LEADS, AND DON'T LOOK BACK

When the going gets tough, the challenges seem insurmountable and you think about giving up and going back

God never leads backwards, only forward

If you are going to follow Him, then you have to keep trusting, even when things get hard

FOLLOW THE LORD, AND LET HIM SHOW YOU THE WAY

The Lord told Joshua to lead the people to where the river divided the wilderness of yesterday from the Promised Land of tomorrow

Then, the Lord told them to... **stop**

They needed to learn that they could not claim this new land, it was the fulfillment of God's promise

It would only work if they let Him reveal the way

God does His best work in lives that are willing to follow at the pace He has chosen

STEP OUT WHEN HE LEADS

Nobody was allowed to get ahead of the ark

If they tried, it would be futile

God's plan was not '*plan A*', it was the only plan

The Lord has given us His Holy Spirit, who leads us from within

To follow the Spirit, you have to stay in fellowship with Christ

BE EXTRA SURE THAT THE LORD IS LEADING

“... that you may know the way by which you must go, for you have not passed this way before.” Joshua 3:4