

Talk It Over

Questions are prepared each week and are designed to prompt insights, questions, and the life experience of each listener. If these are used immediately following the sermon, it would be much the same as what was done in Israel at the time of the early church.

Read

Joshua 3:1-6; 14-17

Discuss

1. Have you ever felt like the Israelites probably felt while in Shittim? What is the significance of "three days" in the Biblical record? What often happens in the Bible over a three-day period?
2. What is the significance of the Ark of the Covenant? What does it represent? Why are the Israelites commanded to stay at a distance from the Ark?
3. When does the Jordan River part? What happens before the Israelites see a path through the river? What is the significance of this? Why didn't God part the river first, and then ask the Israelites to "set out"?
4. In the Book of Micah (written by an Israelite prophet living several hundred years after this story), the Israelites are instructed to remember what God did at Shittim. Why was this important for Israel to remember?
5. Of the seven questions that were suggested as a means of discerning how God might be leading you, which resonated the most with you?
 - Is the door opening or am I forcing it open?
 - Do the people I trust and respect think this is a good idea?
 - Does the possibility excite me, even if I'm afraid?
 - Are my motives pure?
 - Can I see how God has brought me to this place?
 - Am I manipulating God or following God?
 - Do the waters part when I step in?
6. How is this ancient story challenging you or encouraging you in this present moment?



Wrap Up:

Commit to pray for each other during the coming week.