



## Sermon Notes

### Embracing Hope Part 15 – The Ripple Effect of Hope May 3, 2020

*I open my heart to receive from the Word of God  
God's promises are true  
And they are true for me*

**Hope is contagious.**

1 Peter 3:15

*<sup>15</sup> But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.*

**We are supposed to convey the reason for our hope.**

Joshua 3:15-16

*<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.*

**God was setting the scene at the Jordan to show His glory.**

***Are you living God's story, or still trying to write your own?***

**When we become doubtful and cynical, we are telling God we believe the circumstances are bigger than He is.**

Joshua 4:1-7

*<sup>1</sup> When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua, <sup>2</sup> "Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, <sup>3</sup> and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, from right where the priests are standing, and carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight."*

*<sup>4</sup> So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe, <sup>5</sup> and said to them, "Go over before the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, <sup>6</sup> to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, 'What do these stones mean?' <sup>7</sup> tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever."*



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Joshua 5:1

<sup>1</sup> Now when all the Amorite kings west of the Jordan and all the Canaanite kings along the coast heard how the LORD had dried up the Jordan before the Israelites until they had crossed over, their hearts melted in fear and they no longer had the courage to face the Israelites.

Isaiah 49:14-16

<sup>14</sup> But Zion said, "The LORD has forsaken me,  
the Lord has forgotten me."

<sup>15</sup> "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast  
and have no compassion on the child she has borne?  
Though she may forget,  
I will not forget you!

<sup>16</sup> See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands;  
your walls are ever before me.

**God knows about our doubts and fears, and He meets them with grace.**

*"There is no passion to be found playing small - in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living."*

Nelson Mandela

*"There are no victories at bargain prices."*

Dwight D. Eisenhower

**God has a reason for the *river!***

*"Believe in God like you believe in the sunrise. Not because you can see it, but because you can see all it touches."*

CS Lewis

