



## Family Worship Experience

- READ THE SCRIPTURE -

### GOD STOPPED THE JORDAN RIVER



Our memory verse is Psalm 119:105 and it says 'Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path'. As Joshua led the Israelites through the Jordan River, taking the ark of the covenant with them, they also collected 12 stones and built an altar of remembrance for all God had done for them. Our Big Idea this week was 'God directs my steps and leads me'.

Use this Family Devotion to continue the conversation of how we need to celebrate the paths that God had led us on. Parents, this is a great opportunity for you to talk to your kids about times in your lives where God has guided and directed your steps. 'The Bible is God's Word that tells us what is true about God and ourselves'. We look at the Bible to help hear from God and guide us on our way.

Begin by watching the Bible story video, and then read all or parts of this story from Joshua 3-4 in the Bible. If this is all you have time for today, pray as a family, and then come back to the family devotion later in the week.

Or choose to continue reading through the family devotion provided here. Be sure to let your kids talk and discuss. Give everyone opportunity to share a prayer request and have a chance to pray aloud.



## Family Worship Experience

-TALK ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE -

The Gateway Arch stands 630 feet tall over the city of St. Louis, Missouri. Built in 1963, the arch is made of concrete and steel, and it weighs more than 43 tons! This impressive monument is meant to remember and celebrate the westward expansion of the United States that connected the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. It is known as the “Gateway to the West.”

Monuments like the Gateway Arch are meant to help people remember, but this idea is actually much older. After God miraculously stopped the Jordan River for the Israelites to pass through, He gave Joshua specific instructions for building a monument. The Israelites took 12 stones from the middle of the river, and they built a monument to remember what God had done. Whenever someone asked why those stones were there, the Israelites could retell the stories of their strong and mighty God.

Psalm 78:4 says, “... tell a future generation the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, his might, and the wondrous works he has performed.” Remembering the awesome things God has done helps us to trust Him. We can also tell others about His wondrous works—like how He sent Jesus to save us from our sin—so that they might believe in Him.

**God went ahead of Joshua and the Israelites into the promised land. He showed His power to them so they would trust in Him. When Jesus came to earth, He showed His power so people would trust in Him and be saved from sin.**

*Pray: Lord, we praise You because You have done great things! Help us remember all the awesome things You have done and to share those stories with others to help them know You.*