

Theme : Running with Horses

# Gilgal

**Jeremiah 12:5** If you have run with the footmen, and they have wearied you, then how can you contend with horses? And if in the land of peace, in which you trusted, they wearied you, then how will you do in the floodplain of the Jordan?

### Questions for Reflection:

1. Who are the **"footmen"** who wearies you in your life and ministry?
2. What are the **"horses"** the Lord wants you to run with?
3. What should we be doing in our **"land of peace"** to prepare for the **"flooding of the Jordan"**?

To run with **horses**, we must look to:

1. **Protect** the capacities in our lives:
  - a. **Spiritual** Capacity
  - b. **Mental** Capacity
  - c. **Emotional** Capacity
  - d. **Physical** Capacity
2. **Strengthen** them
3. **Enlarge** them

Running with **horses** - 2012 Challenges

1. **Community Penetration**
2. **Evangelism** - New Platforms - Orphanages / Homes
3. **Alpha** - Tribe / Cluster Based
4. **Missions** - Adopt Overseas Missions

How to run with horses?

**4 Significant Milestones**  
in our **Discipleship Journey**.

**2 Kings 2:1-14**

## 2 Kings 2:1-14

**1**And it came to pass, when the LORD was about to take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. **2**Then Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So they went down to Bethel.

## 2 Kings 2:1-14

**3**Now the sons of the prophets who were at Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that the LORD will take away your master from over you today?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent!" **4**Then Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So they came to Jericho.

## 2 Kings 2:1-14

**5**Now the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho came to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that the LORD will take way your master from over you today?" So he answered, "Yes, I know; keep silent!" **6**Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So the two of them went on.

## 2 Kings 2:1-14

**7**And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went and stood facing them at a distance, while the two of them stood by the Jordan. **8**Now Elijah took his mantle, rolled it up, and struck the water; and it was divided this way and that, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground.

## 2 Kings 2:1-14

**9**And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?" Elisha said, Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me." **10**So he said, "You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so."

## 2 Kings 2:1-14

**11**Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. **12**And Elisha saw it, and he cried out, "My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen!" So he saw him no more. And he took hold of his own clothes and tore them into two pieces.

**2 Kings 2:1-14**

**13**He also took up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan. **14**Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, "Where is the LORD God of Elijah?" And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over.

How to run with horses?  
**4 Significant Milestones**  
 in our **Discipleship Journey**.

- 1 Gilgal
- 2 Bethel
- 3 Jericho
- 4 Jordan

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**4 Significant Milestones**  
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# What is Gilgal?

The cutting away of the FLESH!

The significance of Gilgal is the cutting of the flesh i.e. circumcision.

- It is the rolling away of the reproach of **Egypt**.

**Principle of First Mention**

**Joshua 5:9** Then the LORD said to Joshua, "This day I have **rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.**" Therefore the name of the place is called **Gilgal** to this day.

**How?** 

**Application #1:** We must bring our **past** under the Blood.

**1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to **forgive** us our sins and to **cleanse** us from all unrighteousness.

**Colossians 1:20** and by Him to **reconcile** all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace **through the blood of His cross.**

### Our Past: **Reproach** - **Shame** - **Blame** - **Disgrace**



**Application #1:** We must bring our **past** under the Blood.

**Isaiah 43:18** Forget the former things; do not dwell on the **past**. (NIV)

**Philippians 3:13** Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, **forgetting those things which are behind** and reaching forward to those things which are ahead

**Application #2:** We must know the **divine exchange**.

**Hebrews 10:17** then He adds, "Their sins and their lawless deeds I will **remember no more**."

**2 Corinthians 5:21** For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the **righteousness of God in Him**.

**Romans 5:17b** ... much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the **gift of righteousness** will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.)

**Application #2:** We must know the **divine exchange**.

**Ephesians 2:8** For by **grace** you have been saved through **faith**, and that not of yourselves; it is the **gift of God**. **9** not of works, lest anyone should boast.

**Romans 8:1** There is therefore now **no condemnation** to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

**Application #3:** As we do so, we must deal with all aspects of the **flesh** in our lives:

A. The flesh that **sins**.

**Galatians 5:19-21** (**Sins** of Commission)

**19** The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; **20** idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions

**Application #3:** As we do so, we must deal with all aspects of the **flesh** in our lives:

A. The flesh that **sins**.

**James 4:17** (**Sins** of Omission)

Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.

**Application #3:** As we do so, we must deal with all aspects of the **flesh** in our lives:

B. The flesh of our **own natural** goodness, abilities, zeal, wisdom, strength and power.

**Cutting off the Flesh = Journey in Brokenness**

**Luke 9:23**

### Luke 9:23

Brokenness - the moulding of our lives as we:

- i. **Deny** our self-life.
- ii. Take up our **cross daily**.
- iii. **Follow** ME.

This is **Intentional DISCIPLESHIP**.

i. **Deny** our self-life - Flesh - Old Man - Sinful-Nature.

Jealousy and Envy    Argumentative    Our Insecurity  
 Our Low Self-image    Boasting in our Flesh    Self-pity    Critical Spirit  
 Arm of Flesh to "steady the Ark"    Our Strong-minds    Our Forceful Will  
 Comparing and Competitive spirit

i. **Deny** our self-life - Flesh - Old Man - Sinful-Nature.

**Romans 6:11** Reckon yourself dead to **sin** (*the sinful nature*) ...

- i.e. **Do not react; do not respond according to the sinful nature.**  
 e.g. 1 - taking revenge - get even - backstab  
 e.g. 2 - keeping a record of wrongs  
 e.g. 3 - vicarious anger  
 e.g. 4 - expectations and judgmental

**WHY** must the flesh - sin nature in us die?

**WHY** must the flesh - sin nature in us die?

- (1) This is because the flesh is **hostile** to God and cannot **please** God (Romans 8:7-8).
- (2) The **flesh** profits **nothing** (John 6:63).
- (3) The sin nature is corrupt and cannot be **transformed**.

The sin nature must be crucified and put to death!

**How?**

- ii. Take up our **cross daily**.
- (1) The cross means crucifixion and death to our **self**-life.
  - (2) Our cross is not our **sister's or brother's** cross.
  - (3) Our cross is unique and a **personal** one.

- ii. Take up our **cross daily**.
- (4) Our cross are:
    - (A) The **people** that cross our paths.
    - (B) The **circumstances** that we are in; that invokes the **sin**-nature in us which must be crucified and dead.

The life of Christ is increased (manifested) to the extent the **I - ME - MYSELF** is decreased.

The day I fail to take up my cross is the day I:

Lose my temper    Fall into sin    Fight    Get Offended  
 Lust    Get impatient    Overly stressed    Quarrel  
 Gossip    Be envious    Get angry    Become fearful  
 On Performance Treadmill

**Application #3:** As we do so, we must deal with all aspects of the **flesh** in our lives:

- B. The flesh of our **own natural** goodness, abilities, zeal, wisdom, strength and power.

Galatians 2:20  
 Romans 6:11  
 Colossians 3:9-10  
 Ephesians 4:22-24

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Understand the why of Spiritual Disciplines

Understand the why of Serving and Ministry

**Application #3:** As we do so, we must deal with all aspects of the **flesh** in our lives:

- B. The flesh of our **own natural** goodness, abilities, zeal, wisdom, strength and power.

Understanding the Basis of Prayer

Isaiah 53:11  
 Hebrews 11:6; 4:16

iii. **Follow** ME - Yield to the Holy Spirit to circumcise our **hearts**.

**Romans 2:29** but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and **circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit**, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.

iii. **Follow** ME - Yield to the Holy Spirit to circumcise our **hearts**.

**Psalm 51:17** The sacrifices of God are a **broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart**— these, O God, You will not despise.

**Isaiah 57:15** For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has **a contrite and humble spirit**, to revive the spirit of the **humble**, and to revive the heart of the **contrite** ones.

iii. **Follow** ME - Yield to the Holy Spirit to circumcise our **hearts**.

**Isaiah 66:2** For all those things My hand has made, and all those things exist, says the LORD. "But on this one will I look: on him who is **poor** [**Matthew 5:3**] and of a **contrite** spirit, and who **trembles at My word**.

## Conclusion

**Gilgal** = Circumcision  
 = Cutting of the Flesh  
 = Step to Promised Land - Story of Israel

Which aspect of our flesh is holding us back from experiencing the Promised Land?

Which aspect of our flesh needs to be cut off?