BBTC 34th Anniversary Celebration Uleathering the Storm Together We Have Never Been This Way Before

INTRODUCTION - when for the very first time:

- Travelling to a foreign city.
- Visiting the sick in the hospital.
- Going to IMH.
- Diagnosed with cancer.
- Going to school, Poly, UNI whether local or overseas.
- Starting a new job in a new environment.
- Moving house to a new location.
- Doing zoom call or figuring out a SMART phone.
- Etc.

CB-P1=50; P2=100, +LiveW; P3 ...

Joshua 3:4

(NKJV) Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure. Do not come near it, that you may know the way by which you must go, for <u>you have not passed this way before</u>."

(NIV) Then you will know which way to go, since <u>you have never been</u> <u>this way before</u>. But keep a distance of about two thousand cubits between you and the ark; do not go near it."

Joshua 3:4

(AMP) However, there shall be a distance between you and it of about 2,000 cubits (3,000 ft.) by measurement. Do not come near it, so that you may [be able to see the ark and] know the way you are to go, for <u>you have not</u> <u>passed this way before</u>."

(NLT) Since <u>you have never travelled this way before</u>, they will guide you. Stay about half a mile behind them, keeping a clear distance between you and the Ark. Make sure you don't come any closer."

We Have Never Been This Way Before

So HOW?

Background to Joshua 3:

- Moses had died;
- Moses led Israel across the Red Sea.

- Joshua is the new leader;
- Joshua and Israel are now near River Jordan and about to cross over.

Three Principles from Joshua 3:

- I. Principle #1 Fix your eyes on the Ark of the Covenant
- II. Principle #2 Follow the Ark as it moves
- **III.** Principle #3 Consecrate yourself continually

Three Principles from Joshua 3:

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Principle #1 Fix your eyes on the Ark of the Covenant

Joshua 3:3 and they commanded the people, saying, "When you <u>see</u> the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, and the priests, the Levites, bearing it, then you shall set out from your place and go after it. I. Principle #1 - Fix your eyes on the Ark of the Covenant
1. The Ark represents the Presence of the Lord
A. He is holy and those who come near Him must be holy.

Joshua 5:15 Then the Commander of the Lord's army said to Joshua, "Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy." And Joshua did so. The Ark represents the Presence of the Lord
 A. He is holy and those who come near Him must be holy.

Hebrews 12:14 Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord.

1 Peter 1:15-16 15 but <u>as He who called you is holy</u>, <u>you also</u> <u>be holy</u> in all your conduct, 16 because it is written, "<u>Be holy</u>, <u>for I am holy</u>."

Online-Onsite Worship



I. Principle #1 - Fix your eyes on the Ark of the Covenant

- 1. The Ark represents the Presence of the Lord
 - **B.** We always come into His Presence by the **Blood** of the Lamb and through Jesus, our High Priest.

Hebrews 10:19, 21 19 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to <u>enter the Holiest by the blood</u> of Jesus.

21 and having a High Priest over the house of God.

I. Principle #1 - Fix your eyes on the Ark of the Covenant

- 1. The Ark represents the Presence of the Lord
 - C. In the <u>OT</u>, under <u>law</u>, there are <u>severe</u> consequences when we "mis-handle" the Presence of the Lord.

Leviticus 10:1-2

1 Then <u>Nadab and Abihu</u>, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and <u>offered</u> <u>profane fire before the Lord</u>, which He had not commanded them. 2 So <u>fire</u> went out from the Lord and <u>devoured them</u>, and <u>they died</u> before the Lord.



1. The Ark represents the Presence of the Lord

C. In the <u>OT</u>, under <u>law</u>, there are <u>severe</u> consequences when we "mis-handle" the Presence of the Lord.

1 Samuel 6:19-20 19 Then He struck the men of Beth Shemesh, because they had looked into the ark of the Lord. He struck fifty thousand and seventy men of the people, and the people lamented because the Lord had struck the people with a great slaughter. 20 And the men of Beth Shemesh said, "Who is able to stand before this holy Lord God? And to whom shall it go up from us?"



1. The Ark represents the Presence of the Lord

C. In the OT, under law, there are severe consequences when we "mis-handle" the Presence of the Lord.

2 Samuel 6:6-7

6 And when they came to Nachon's threshing floor, <u>Uzzah put out his hand</u> to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled.
7 Then the anger of the Lord was aroused against Uzzah, and <u>God struck him there for his error</u>; and he died there by the ark of God.

The Ark represents the Presence of the Lord
 In the NT, under grace, when we "mis-handle" the Presence of the Lord:

- we grieve the Holy Spirit in us [Ephesians 4:30];
- we reap the <u>negative consequences</u> of our carnality [Galatians 6:7-8] and from leaning on the world's wisdom [James 3:15];
- we give open doors to the evil one to steal, kill and destroy [Ephesians 4:27; 1 Peter 5:8; John 10:10a].

Principle #1 - Fix your eyes on the Ark of the Covenant
 There are <u>3 key items</u> inside the Ark:
 A. The golden pot that had the <u>manna</u>.



Hebrews 9:4 which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were <u>the golden pot that</u> had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant.



WEATHERING THROUGH THE STORM MERVIN'S STORY

BBTC 34TH ANNIVERSARY

I. Principle #1 - Fix your eyes on the Ark of the Covenant
2. There are 3 key items inside the Ark:
B. Aaron's Rod that budded.

Hebrews 9:4 which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna, <u>Aaron's rod that budded (Numbers 17)</u>, and the tablets of the covenant.

Approval & Authority



Principle #1 - Fix your eyes on the Ark of the Covenant
 There are 3 key items inside the Ark:
 C. The tablets of the <u>Covenant</u>.

BBTC-NoC19

Hebrews 9:4 which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and <u>the tablets of the covenant</u>.

Word - Laws for Life & Promises to stand

WEATHERING THROUGH THE STORM EVELYN'S STORY

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Three Principles from Joshua 3:

I. Principle #1 - Fix your eyes on the Ark of the Covenant

II. Principle #2 - Follow the Ark as it moves

III. Principle #3 - Consecrate yourself continually



Joshua 3:3 and they commanded the people, saying, "When you <u>See</u> the ark of the covenant of the Lord your God, and the priests, the Levites, bearing it, then you shall <u>Set out from your place</u> and <u>go after it</u>.

1. Always obey-follow the instructions of the Word.

Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
✓ Joshua 1:8-9

- Proverbs Wisdom
- ✓ 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1
- Philippians 4:8 vs John 8:44
- ✓ Luke 18:1
- ✓ James 3:17

2. Always experience the Grace and Truth of the Lord Jesus.

John 8:12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."

> Walking it out - build strength all round Re mental health-Hope o/r-shareC-blocks

2. Always experience the Grace and Truth of the Lord Jesus.

Ecclesiastes 5:18-20 (AMP) 18 Behold, here is what I have seen to be good and fitting: to eat and drink, and to find enjoyment in all the labor in which he labours under the sun during the few days of his life which God gives him—for this is his [allotted] reward. 19 Also, every man to whom God has given riches and possessions, He has also given the power and ability to enjoy them and to receive [this as] his [allotted] portion and to rejoice in his labor—this is the gift of God [to him]. 20 For he will not often consider the [troubled] days of his life, because God keeps him occupied and focused on the joy of his heart [and the tranquility of God indwells him].

3. Always be guided and led by the <u>Holy Spirit</u> and not respond to our carnality and the wisdom of the world.

Galatians 5:16, 18, 25

16 I say then: <u>Walk in the Spirit</u>, and you shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

18 But if you are <u>led by the Spirit</u>, you are not under the law.

25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Philippians 3:3

3. Always be guided and led by the <u>Holy Spirit</u> and not respond to our carnality and the wisdom of the world.

Hebrews 8:10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: <u>I will put My laws in their mind and</u> write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

Hebrews 10:16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: <u>I will put</u> <u>My laws into their hearts</u>, <u>and in their minds</u> <u>I will write them</u>.

D/M-GoW-FLOW! mik

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Joshua 3:5 And Joshua said to the people, "<u>Sanctify (consecrate)</u> yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do <u>wonders</u> among you." III. Principle #3 - Consecrate yourself continually Joshua 5:13-15: Encounter-Experience the LORD of Hosts

- submit to His authority;
- move to His side, not other way around;
- take off sandals holy ground consecration of daily walk.

SIGchangeSpiritually-Warfare-KeRx





Joshua 6 - will conquer Jericho - Hebrews 11:30

Joshua 7 - failure to consecrate and obey will lead to defeat

Romans 6:13, 19

13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. **19** I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.



Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

2 Corinthians 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

2 Corinthians 4:13 And since we have the same <u>spirit of faith</u>, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore <u>speak</u>.

Pray the Word!

SUMMARY - The 3 Principles:

- I. Principle #1 Fix your eyes on the Ark of the Covenant
- II. Principle #2 Follow the Ark as it moves
- III. Principle #3 Consecrate yourself continually

BOTTOM-LINE: We Have Never Been This Way Before!

Hebrews 12:2 <u>looking unto Jesus</u>, <u>the author and finisher of our faith</u>, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

