



Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 3

Law/Gospel

Complaining and unrepentant,
I wander in a desert of sin,
determined to go my own
way—a way that leads to death.

**In Baptism, Christ lifts me
from the grave, joins me to
His own Baptism and Body,
the Church, and leads me to
my heavenly home.**

Bible Words

Great and amazing are
Your deeds, O Lord.
Revelation 15:3

Fun Facts

In Hebrew, *Jesus* and *Joshua* are
the same name, *Jeshua*. It means
“to rescue, to save, to deliver.”

Just Joking

When was the Jordan River angry?
When someone crossed it.

Entering the Promised Land

Joshua 3:1–5:12

The Israelites wandered the desert for forty years while waiting to receive the land God promised their fathers. The younger generation barely remembered escaping from Egypt. They only knew the harsh life of the desert, where they experienced God’s presence and care for them.

The new generation of Israelites camped beside the Jordan River, waiting for God to lead them across. When He did, God repeated the miracle of the Red Sea crossing their parents had experienced leaving Egypt. When the priests stepped into the flood-stage Jordan River, God piled up the water about twenty miles north. Israel crossed on dry land.

At Joshua’s command, they made rock memorials in the river and on land to remember and teach their children about this amazing day.

After this, Joshua commanded circumcision of all the males of Israel. Circumcision marked God’s chosen people as His own. Today, God marks us as His own with the cross of Christ in Baptism. We are Christ’s Church. We live in the desert of sin and death on earth, waiting to cross to the promised land of heaven following our leader, Jesus.

A New Passover

The people celebrated Passover for the first time in forty years after they entered the Promised Land. God established this meal when He rescued Israel from Egypt to help them recall the miracles of the escape.

At the first Passover, people ate the lamb sacrificed so its blood could be painted on the doorposts. With this God-given sign, the angel of death passed over their houses and spared the lives of the household’s firstborns.

The sacrificed lamb reminds us of Jesus, “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). This Lamb of God died on the cross during a Passover feast to pay for our sins and deliver us from death. He gives eternal life to everyone who believes in Him as the Savior.

Prayer

Jesus, restore to us the joy of our salvation in you. Amen.

