

**ECHO CHURCH**  
YEAR 1 • MONTH 5 • WEEK 3

---

# CROSSOVER

## S E R I E S

---

**6-Day Devotional**  
"Evidence on the Other Side"  
Based on Joshua 4:1-9, 20-24 (NKJV)  
Rich Saunders Jr. | May 18-23, 2026

---

### How to Use This Devotional

This six-day devotional goes deeper into the sermon preached May 17, 2026. Each day takes one stone from Joshua 4 and presses its meaning into your daily life and memory. Read slowly. Let the reflection questions do real work. Speak the declaration at the close of each day out loud. Come to Sunday having carried something, not just having read something.

The goal is not information. It is evidence you can carry.

---

**Day 1** Monday, May 18, 2026

## Go Back to the Middle and Pick Up a Stone

---

**Focus:** *The first act after the crossover was not celebration. It was remembrance.*

Take for yourselves twelve stones from here, out of the midst of the Jordan, from the place where the priests' feet stood firm.

Joshua 4:3 (NKJV)

After the crossing, God does not immediately send Israel into battle. He does not open a strategy session. He does not call the leaders together to plan the conquest. The first thing God

---

does after Israel crosses the Jordan on dry ground is give them an assignment that requires them to go backward. Twelve men. One from each tribe. Go back into the riverbed. Go back to the middle. Go back to the place where the priests stood firm and pick up a stone.

That instruction is not incidental. It is intentional. God was establishing a principle before the momentum of the new season could carry them past the moment. Because the human tendency after a breakthrough is to move quickly into what is next. The crossing is done. The promise is right there. The land is in front of them. Everything in the moment says keep moving. And God says stop. Go back. Pick up a stone.

He required them to return to the place of the miracle and carry something physical from it into the next season. Not a memory alone. Not a feeling. A stone. Something tangible. Something they could set down and look at later. Something their children could touch and ask about. The stones were evidence. And God wanted that evidence built into their story before they got too far from the moment to feel its weight.

Think about the crossings God has already brought you through. The seasons that should have taken you out. The moments where you did not know how you were going to make it and then you did. The places where God held back what was flowing against you. Those are your stones. And the question this week is whether you have gone back to pick them up, or whether you have been moving so quickly into what is next that you left the evidence at the river.

Today is an invitation to go back. Not to live there. But to pick up what God did and carry it forward with you. Because you are going to need it.

---

***Do not get so excited about where God brought you that you forget what God brought you through.***

---

---

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. What is one crossing God brought you through in the last year that you have not fully stopped to honor and remember? Name it specifically.
2. What does a stone from that crossing look like? What would it mean to carry evidence of that moment intentionally into the next season?
3. Is there a temptation in your life right now to move so quickly into what is next that you bypass the work of remembrance? What is driving that pace?

## PRAYER

*Lord, I confess that I have sometimes crossed through what You did and kept moving without stopping to pick up the stones. I do not want to carry momentum without memory. Take me back to the places where You held me up and help me to honor what happened there. I want to carry evidence, not just outcomes. Amen.*

---

***DECLARATION I have evidence that the river did not win.***

---

**Day 2** Tuesday, May 19, 2026

## The Stones Had to Come From the Middle

---

**Focus:** *The strongest evidence does not come from a safe place. It comes from the place God held you when it was hardest.*

| *...from the place where the priests' feet stood firm...*  
Joshua 4:3 (NKJV)

God did not tell them to pick up stones from the shore. He did not say gather them from the bank where the ground was already dry and the risk was already minimal. He said go into the midst of the Jordan. Go to the place where the priests stood. Go to the middle. The specificity of that instruction is not accidental. The evidence had to come from the hardest point of the crossing.

The middle of the Jordan was the place of maximum exposure. It was the point where there was no easy retreat and no full arrival. The priests had stepped in and the water had stopped, but they were still standing in a riverbed with held-back water on both sides and an entire nation crossing around them. That was not a comfortable position. That was a position of sustained trust, held under pressure, for the duration of the crossing.

And God said the stones have to come from there. Not from the moment it got easier. Not from the point when you could see the other side clearly. From the middle. From the hardest part. From the place where faith was not a feeling but a decision you made every moment you stayed.

Some of the most powerful evidence in your life comes from your middles. The season in the middle of the diagnosis where you chose to keep worshipping. The stretch in the middle of the financial pressure where you kept giving. The period in the middle of the marriage difficulty where you chose to stay. The year in the middle of the calling where nothing was visible yet but you kept showing up. Those middles are your most credible stones. They testify not just that God moved, but that God sustained.

The testimony from the edge of the water is powerful. But the testimony from the middle, from the place where you had no human explanation for how you were still standing, that is the evidence that cannot be argued with. Go back and pick that up. Carry it with intention. Because that stone from the middle is the one that will speak most clearly to the person who is in their own middle right now.

---

***Some of your greatest evidence will come from the places that tried to erase you.***

---

---

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS

4. What is your middle? What season or moment required you to hold your position when there was no visible support and no easy exit? Name it.
5. How does framing that middle as evidence rather than just difficulty change the way you carry it?
6. Who do you know who is currently in their own middle? How could your stone from the middle give them language or courage for where they are?

## PRAYER

*Father, I have sometimes been ashamed of my middles or tried to forget them as quickly as possible. Teach me to see them as evidence. The places that tried to erase me became the places where You held me. I want to carry those stones honestly and carry them well. Use what happened in my middle for someone else's breakthrough. Amen.*

---

**DECLARATION** *I have evidence that the river did not win.*

---

**Day 3** Wednesday, May 20, 2026

## Build the Memorial Before the Question Comes

---

**Focus:** *God told them to gather the evidence before the children ever asked the question.*

*That this may be a sign among you when your children ask in time to come, saying, 'What do these stones mean to you?'*

Joshua 4:6 (NKJV)

The timing of this instruction is worth sitting with. God tells Israel to build the stone memorial before any child has asked any question. The monument is erected before the conversation has happened. The evidence is gathered and displayed before anyone comes looking for an explanation. This is not reactive. It is proactive. God wanted the evidence built into the landscape of their lives before the moment of need arrived.

This is the nature of intentional testimony. It is not assembled on the spot when someone asks what happened to you. It is carried continuously, built deliberately, and maintained as a visible part of who you are so that when the question comes, the answer is already present. The stones were set up in Gilgal, where they camped after the crossing. Every morning they woke up and saw them. Every time a child ran past, the stones were there. The evidence was woven into daily life.

There are things God has done in your life that need to be built into your story in the same way. Not as a dramatic performance for the right moment, but as a consistent, honest, visible part of how you carry yourself. The way you talk about hard seasons. The language you use when you describe where you have come from. The willingness to say out loud, in ordinary conversation, that God brought you through something that should have taken you out. That is building the memorial.

You do not need to understand every season fully before you can carry the evidence of it. You may not have language yet for everything God did in a particular chapter of your life. You may still be processing parts of it. But you know that He sustained you. You know that you are still here. You know that the river did not win. That knowing is the stone. Carry it now. Build the memorial now. Because the question is coming, and when it does, the evidence needs to already be in place.

Someone around you right now is moving toward a moment where your testimony will be exactly what they need. Not a polished presentation. Just the honest stones of what God did. Build them into your life before the conversation requires them.

---

***You do not need to understand everything God did to remember that God did it.***

---

---

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS

7. How intentionally have you built the evidence of God's faithfulness into the visible fabric of your daily life? Would the people closest to you know what God has brought you through?
8. Is there a season or miracle of God in your life that you have kept private when it may have been meant to be a stone others could see and ask about?
9. What is one practical way you could build your testimony more visibly into your life this week, before the question comes?

### PRAYER

*God, I want to build the memorial before the question arrives. I do not want to scramble for evidence when someone needs hope. Help me to carry Your faithfulness visibly and honestly as a consistent part of who I am. Use my stones to provoke the right questions in the people around me. Amen.*

---

***DECLARATION I may not have every explanation, but I still have evidence.***

---

**Day 4** Thursday, May 21, 2026

## Your Memory Is Someone Else's Ministry

---

**Focus:** *The stones were not built for private reflection. They were built for public instruction.*

*Then you shall answer them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord... And these stones shall be for a memorial to the children of Israel forever.*

Joshua 4:7 (NKJV)

The memorial was not a personal journal entry. It was not a private meditation practice. It was a public monument built in the middle of the camp specifically so that children would see it, ask about it, and receive the answer. God designed the testimony to be structural, visible, and generationally accessible. The stones were not for the people who crossed. They were for the people who came after.

This reframes the purpose of testimony in a way that can change everything about how you hold your story. Your crossing was real. The miracle was yours. The survival was personal. But the testimony that comes from it was never meant to end with you. God brought you through something so that you could carry the evidence into conversations with people who are still in

the middle of what He brought you out of. Your memory is designed to become someone else's ministry.

Think about the people in your life who are in a season you have already survived. The person navigating the financial pressure you came through. The one in the middle of the health crisis you were carried through. The one questioning their calling in the same way you questioned yours. They do not need a perfect person with all the answers. They need someone who crossed and is willing to say so honestly. That is the stone. That is the memorial.

Revelation 12:11 says they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony. The blood is what Jesus did. The testimony is what you say about what Jesus did. When you speak what God brought you through, you are not just processing your past. You are providing language for someone else's hope. And that language may be the thing that keeps them standing in their own middle when everything in them wants to stop.

The enemy fights testimony so consistently because he knows exactly what it does. It turns one person's memory into another person's courage. Do not let the enemy convince you that your story is too small, too ordinary, or too complicated to share. Someone is waiting for the specific stones that came from your specific river.

---

***God did not give you evidence so you could hoard it. He gave you evidence so somebody else could have language for hope.***

---

---

#### REFLECTION QUESTIONS

10. Who is in your life right now who is in a season you have already come through? Have you told them what God did in your crossing?
11. What has held you back from sharing your testimony more freely? Name it honestly.
12. What would it look like this week to turn one specific memory of God's faithfulness into an act of ministry toward someone who needs it?

#### PRAYER

*Lord, I receive this truth today: my memory was never meant to stay with me. You brought me through so I could carry the evidence to someone else. Give me the courage to speak what You did in my life with honesty and without performance. Use my stones to build faith in people who are still standing in the river. Amen.*

---

**DECLARATION *My memory is becoming ministry.***

---

**Day 5** Friday, May 22, 2026

## Evidence Protects You From Rewriting the Story

---

**Focus:** *Success can create spiritual amnesia. The stones were built to prevent it.*

---

*For the Lord your God dried up the waters of the Jordan before you until you had crossed over... that you may fear the Lord your God forever.*

Joshua 4:23-24 (NKJV)

There is a specific temptation that lives on the other side of a breakthrough. It does not announce itself. It does not feel dangerous at first. It feels like confidence, like growth, like the natural result of coming through something hard. But if it is left unchecked, it quietly begins to rewrite the story. And the rewrite always moves in the same direction: away from God and toward self.

It sounds like this: I crossed because I was disciplined. I made it because I was wise. I survived because I had the right plan. I got here because I worked hard and made good decisions. And none of those things are necessarily untrue on their own. But when they become the primary explanation for the crossing, they exclude the most important fact. God dried up the river. The priests stood, but God held the water. Joshua led, but God performed the miracle. Obedience was their participation. Power was God's contribution.

The stones at Gilgal were a structural protection against that rewrite. Every time an Israelite walked past them, they were confronted with the honest account of what happened. Not I crossed because I was strong. The Lord dried up the waters. The stones kept the story accurate. They prevented the drift from gratitude into pride that prosperity so naturally produces.

Deuteronomy 8:17-18 puts it plainly: do not say in your heart that my power and the might of my hand gained me this wealth. And you shall remember the Lord your God. The instruction to remember is not just about honoring the past. It is about protecting the present. Because when you remember correctly, you stay positioned correctly. You do not lead like someone who owns what God entrusted to you. You do not serve like someone who deserves what God gave in mercy. You do not worship like someone who earned what God supplied by grace.

Build your memorial honestly. Let it carry the full truth of what happened. God held back what should have taken you out. And the evidence of that is not a reason for pride. It is a reason for reverence. When you remember correctly, you worship differently.

---

***Obedience was their participation, but power was God's contribution.***

---

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

13. Where do you notice the drift in your own thinking, from gratitude for what God did toward credit for what you accomplished? Be honest.
14. What is one specific area of your current life or success where you need to consciously place the stone back in God's hands and acknowledge His contribution?
15. What would it look like to lead, serve, or worship this week from the posture of someone who was carried rather than someone who earned it?

## PRAYER

*God, I do not want to rewrite my story. I do not want to cross over on Your power and then spend my life on the other side taking credit for the dry ground. Keep my memory honest. Let the stones stay visible. I want to fear You and honor You correctly because I remember correctly. Everything I am standing in was made possible by what You held back. Amen.*

---

**DECLARATION** *I will not let the blessing make me forget the Hand that brought me here.*

---

**Day 6** Saturday, May 23, 2026

## The Evidence Behind You Is for the Battle Ahead

---

**Focus:** *Joshua 4 happens before Jericho. The stones were preparation, not just remembrance.*

*...as the Lord your God did to the Red Sea, which He dried up before us until we had crossed over, that all the peoples of the earth may know the hand of the Lord, that it is mighty...*

Joshua 4:23-24 (NKJV)

The timing of Joshua 4 is not a coincidence. The stone memorial is built before Jericho. Before the first march. Before the walls fall. Before any of the battles of conquest begin. God gave them the reminder of the Jordan specifically because He knew what was coming next. The next challenge would require the same quality of faith the crossing required. And He wanted the evidence of the last miracle built into their memory before the next challenge arrived.

This is the forward dimension of testimony that most people do not think about. We tend to frame remembrance as backward-facing, as honoring the past and processing what God did before. But God's purpose for the stones was also forward-facing. They were not just a monument to the Jordan. They were ammunition for Jericho. They were the answer to the question that would arise when Israel stood before an impenetrable walled city and everything in the natural said this is impossible.

David understood this before Israel did. When he stood before Goliath, he did not reach for confidence in his own ability. He reached for evidence. The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine. The lion and the bear were David's stones from the river. They were tangible evidence that God had moved before in impossible situations. And that evidence became the foundation of his courage in a new and larger moment.

The week closes today with this invitation. You are not just looking back at what God did. You are being prepared for what God is about to ask of you. The evidence of the Jordan is not just a testimony from a past season. It is the foundation of your faith for the next wall you are going to face. When you carry your stones into Sunday and into the week ahead, you are not just honoring God for what He has done. You are building the courage you will need for what is coming.

Do not cross over and leave the evidence at the river. Carry it. Set it up. Let it be visible. Because Jericho is ahead. And when you stand before the wall and everything in the natural says this is impossible, your stones from the Jordan will say: if He did it there, He will do it here. The evidence behind you is supposed to strengthen the obedience in front of you.

---

***The evidence behind you is supposed to strengthen the obedience in front of you.***

---

---

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

16. What is your Jericho? What wall stands in front of you right now that seems impenetrable? Name it specifically.
17. What is the Jordan stone that speaks most directly to that wall? What past evidence of God's faithfulness gives you the most credible reason to trust Him in this next challenge?
18. As you go into Sunday, what is one declaration grounded in your evidence that you will carry into the week ahead?

## PRAYER

*Lord, I carry my stones into this week not just as a memorial to the past but as preparation for what is ahead. You dried up the Jordan. You can bring down Jericho. What You did before is evidence of what You will do again. I will not face the next wall without the testimony of the last river. I trust You. I carry the evidence. And I move forward. Amen.*

---

**DECLARATION *I have enough evidence to trust God again.***

---

---

**Carry the evidence.**  
Build the memorial.  
Tell the story.  
The other side is not just proof that you crossed.  
It is proof that God kept His word.

CROSSOVER SERIES • ECHO CHURCH • 2026