

Not Passed this Way Before

Joshua 3:3-4

God can lead you to places you have  
never been before.

# Plowing New Ground

- Husband hears clock strike 13 times
- Wakes up wife – It is later than it has ever been
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- Try new things, plow new ground
- God can lead us to places we have never been before.

## Joshua 3:2-4

- 2 So it was, after three days, that the officers went through the camp; 3 and they commanded the people, saying, "When you see 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. 4 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 you have not passed this way before."

# Watch the Ark

- When it moves – you move
- When it stops – you stop
- In NT – Look unto Jesus
- **Hebrews 12:2** looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, 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.



# Follow It

- Like following another car
- Turn where they turn
- Don't question – just follow
- **1 Peter 2:21** For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps

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## Follow It

- **John 21:21-22** 21 Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "But Lord, what about this man?" 22 Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me."

# Keep Your Distance

- Do not get near or touch the Ark
- Show respect for God
- It might stop – don't run into it
- Don't tailgate
- Many want to bring God down to our level
- God is above us – not equal to us

# You Don't Know the Way

- If you knew the way you would not need to follow another.
- God knows the way that is best
- God knows where to cross the Jordan
- God knows where to camp, where there is water, where it is safe



# **You have not passed this way before**

- No Israelite had been here (except Joshua and Caleb)
- They entered and left a different way
- They entered from the south
- Now they are going across the Jordan and enter from the west

# You have not passed this way before

- Even to Joshua and Caleb this is new territory
- A few men (12 spies) could go places that you can not lead 3 million people and their possessions and animals
- **Lesson for Us** – God can lead us to places we have never been before

# Applications

**Our world** – terrorists, ISIS, Islam

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- **USA** – Homosexuality, Same sex marriage, Abortion, immorality approved, Christianity condemned
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- **Church** – Change agents, stray from doctrine