

Study Guide for October 24, 1999  
Joshua 5:1-12 - First Things First

1. Recount a time when you realized that your priorities had to change - and they did. What forces led you to make the corrections so that "First things" were truly "First"?
  
2. What two activities does God have the Israelites do immediately after crossing of the Jordan River?
  - A. (vs. 2) \_\_\_\_\_ the Israelites again.
  - B. (vs. 10) \_\_\_\_\_ the Passover.
  
3. Circumcision was the sign of the Covenant between God and his people. Read Gen. 17:7-14. God's promise to give the whole land of Canaan preceded his direction to Abraham regarding circumcision. What do the following passages teach about the importance and meaning of circumcision?
  - A. Ex. 4:24-26:
  
  - B. Ex. 12:48-49:
  
  - C. Rom. 2:25-29:
  
  - D. Col. 2:9-15:
  
4. In vs. 9 we read that the Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." What do you think was the "reproach of Egypt"? (see Ex. 32:12, Num. 14:13, Dt. 9:28)
  
5. The Passover symbolized God's deliverance of his people from Egypt. Read Ex. 12:1-30 for the account of the first Passover. It seems to have only been celebrated once since Israel left Egypt - see Numbers 9:1-5.
  - A. What significance do you see for Israel celebrating Passover at this time?
  
  - B. What significance do you see for us - as followers of Jesus - as we think about the Passover? (See Luke 22:7-23 and I Cor. 5:6-8)
  
6. In verse 11-12 we are told that the manna stops after the Israelites ate from the produce of Canaan.  
  
Reflect on the following comment, "In the providence of God, extraordinary means are only temporary. Now the Israelites would experience the miracle of regular harvests in the land of milk and honey. In a similar way, Jesus' miracles were evidence of God's presence and were not intended to be regular sustenance."