

The Life Challenge

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10

Series: Step In
Title: Step In!
Speaker: Matt Ewert
Text: Joshua 3
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WARM-UP

What's the riskiest thing you've ever done? How did it turn out?

DISCUSSION

Introduction:

In this past weekend's services we looked at Joshua 3, and noted that it wasn't until after the priests stepped in to the Jordan River that God acted to stop the water, allowing their crossing on dry land. God intended to provide the people with this miracle, but not until after they took a literal faith step into the river. A similar story occurs in the New Testament where Jesus calls on a person to take an action of faith before experiencing miraculous intervention.

Read John 9:1-11

- Why do you think Jesus did not simply heal the man on the spot, as he had done so many other times?
- What kinds of thoughts do you think were running through the blind man's mind as he was called to exercise a response of faith as a condition of having the healing "process" move to completion?
- In this weekend's teaching, three things were suggested as potential barriers when it comes to deciding to step out in faith:
 1. **Fear of Failure** (What if I take this risk and nothing happens? How will failure make me look?)
 2. **Fear of Success** (If God meets me in this act of faith, what might that change? I like the life I've built, what if successfully taking a step of faith messes that up?)
 3. **Aversion to Commitment** (What if my step of faith can't be packaged into 5 minutes? What if I don't see God's action or intervention immediately?)
- What other barriers are there that you can think of that keep us from taking these kinds of faith steps?
- Which of these barriers do you think is the most challenging for you to overcome?

Take time to share with the group an area in your life where you think God may be nudging you to "step in" and exercise "difference making faith". What barriers are you experiencing related to following through on that prompting?

Pray for one another for the courage to exercise obedient faith related to the things that have been shared.