

Joshua's Basket

"He did this so that all ... might know that the hand of the Lord is powerful..." Joshua 4:24

During Focus on the Family's 1996 Director's Conference, a friend presented me with a beautiful basket containing two stones. She quietly told me the story in Joshua 4 and the purpose of this "Joshua Basket."

When the Israelites came to the river Jordan, they found it flooded. Through Joshua, God commanded the priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant to set foot into the Jordan. When they obeyed, the water was parted to reveal dry ground. As they stood there, their people passed safely across.

The Lord later said to Joshua, "Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan..." The stones were to serve as a sign to their children that the Israelites had crossed the Jordan on dry ground. Verse 24 reads, "He did this so that all ... might know that the hand of the Lord is powerful..."

My friend instructed me to place a rock in the basket for every life that our ministry touched. Each rock should bear that person's name. Praise the Lord – in just a short while, the basket was filled.

What a delight it is to add another rock to our basket. Whenever I am feeling at "flood stage," this simple basket filled with rocks reminds me that it is the powerful hand of the Lord that controls this ministry. Dry land is only a footstep away when we trust Him!