

Session 3

Victory over Obstacles

River Jordan - The First Obstacle

River Jordan (Joshua 3-4)

- River Jordan - Overwhelming Obstacle (Wide, Deep with a swift current and a much-twisted course, Jeremiah 12:5)
- New way (Joshua 3:4)

To cross the River Jordan,
People should follow the Ark of the Covenant!

River Jordan - The First Obstacle

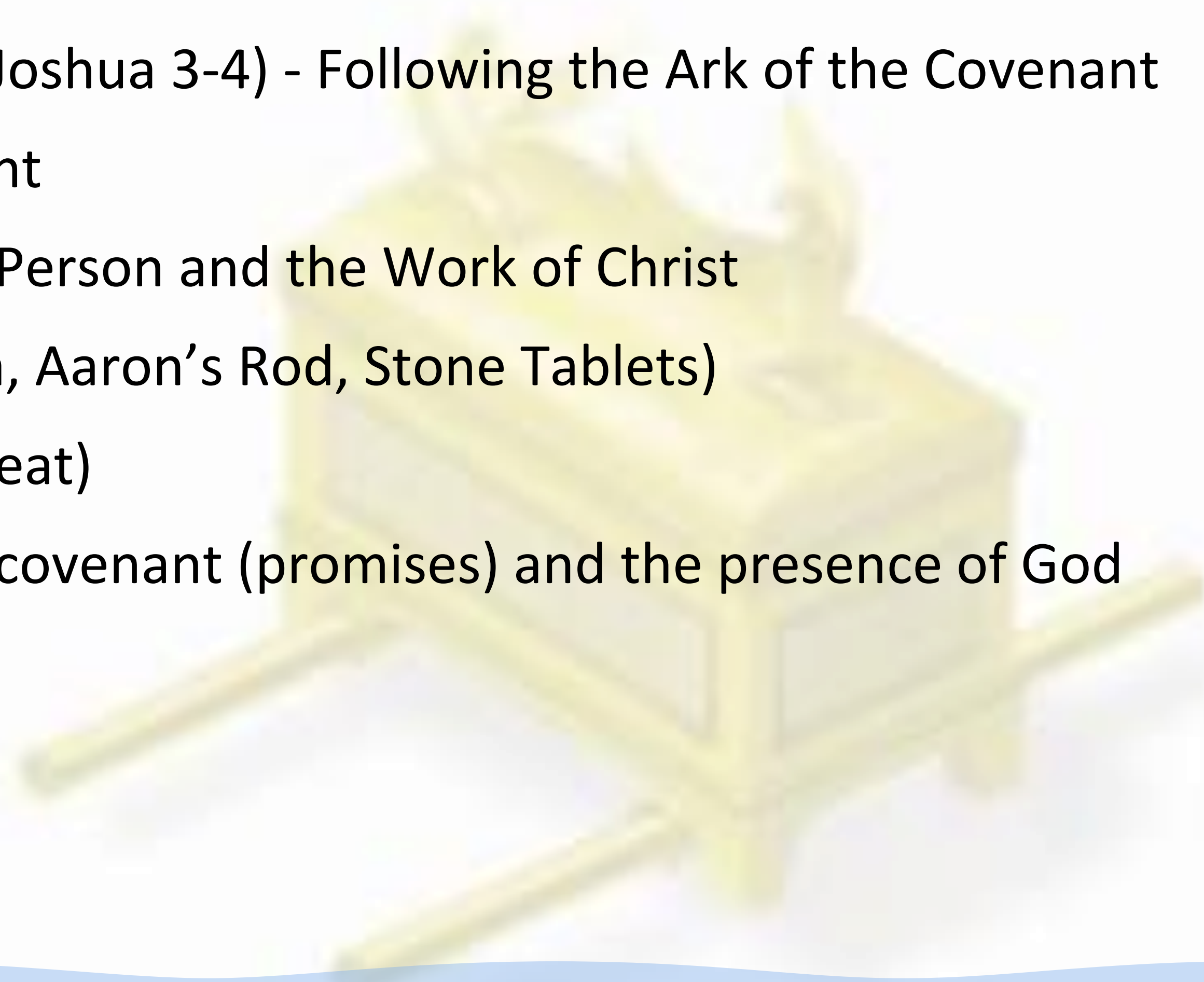
Crossing River Jordan (Joshua 3-4)

- Significance of the crossing the River Jordan (besides entering into Canaan) -
 - Joshua 3:10 - People may know that the Living God is among them
 - Joshua 4: 23-24 - All people may know the hand of God
 - Joshua 4:23-24 - All people may fear the Lord

River Jordan - The Gateway

Crossing River Jordan (Joshua 3-4) - Following the Ark of the Covenant

- Ark of the Covenant
 - Represents the Person and the Work of Christ
(Person : Manna, Aaron's Rod, Stone Tablets)
(Work : Mercy Seat)
 - Represents the covenant (promises) and the presence of God



River Jordan - The Gateway

Significance of the crossing the River Jordan -

1. Dying to old life and living with a newness of life (Romans 6:4-6)
 - Stones from the River and from outside of the River (Joshua 4:8, 9)
 - New beginning (Joshua 5: 1-9; 5: 11-12; 5:10)
2. Experience of the work of the Cross (Galatians 2:20; 5:24; 6:14)

Crossing the River Jordan symbolically represent freedom, deliverance, and the transition into a new life.

River Jordan is a Gateway!
The Tribes of Ruben and Gad had no desire to cross the River Jordan
(Numbers 32:1,5,19; Joshua 4:11-13; 1 Chronicles 12:15)

Jericho - Insurmountable Obstacle

Overcoming Jericho (Joshua 6)

1. Walls of Jericho - Insurmountable obstacle
 - No human power can break the walls of Jericho
2. Marching with the Ark of the Covenant and circling around the walls
 - It speaks of faith in the Power of God (Joshua 6:2)
 - Obedience to His commandments (Word)

Jericho - Insurmountable Obstacle

Jericho -

1. Symbolises:

- Death and Barrenness (2 Kings 2:19-21)
- Like Egypt, Sodom, Babylon, Jericho is a symbol of the World (a system that works against God and His kingdom)
- Zacchaeus in Jericho (Luke 19:1-10)
- Blind Bartimaeus near Jericho (Mark 10: 46-52)

2. Marching around the wall of Jericho represents

- Test of faith and obedience

Jericho - Stepping Stone

Overcoming Jericho -

1. Obstacle that makes the difference between the logic and faith

Feature	Logic	Faith
Basis	Factual accuracy (What you can see, measure, explain)	Spiritual truths (Word, God) (Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:1)
Nature	Reason, evidence, and proof (san't account for the unseen, spiritual, or eternal)	Substance and Evidence (Hebrews 11:1; 2 Corinthians 4:18)
Evidence	Requires evidence to support claims (“I’ll believe it when I see it”)	Believe to see (John 11:40; Mark 6:33)

Overcoming Jericho is a stepping stone from logic to faith!

Jericho - Stepping Stone

Overcoming Jericho -

1. The values, norms and beliefs of the World (Obstacles) (1 John 2: 15-16)

- Lust of the eyes - The world's logical views and values oppose the sanctity of life - Marriage ...
- Lust of the flesh - The world's materialistic views oppose the reality of spiritual things (spirit, God..) and promotes atheistic views
- Pride of Life - The world's belief system and scientific intelligence opposes divine authority

Like wall of Jericho, the values, norms and beliefs of the world imprisons a person.
Overcoming Jericho is a stepping stone from captivity to freedom!

Jericho - Stepping Stone

Overcoming Jericho - A stepping stone to victory and freedom

1. Overcoming the World

- Through Christ (John 16:33)
- Through Faith (1 John 5:4)
- Through Cross (Galatians 6:14)

Joshua and the Captain of the Lord

Joshua's encounter with the Captain of the Host of the Lord (Joshua 5: 13-15)

Joshua - Art thou for us, or for our adversaries?

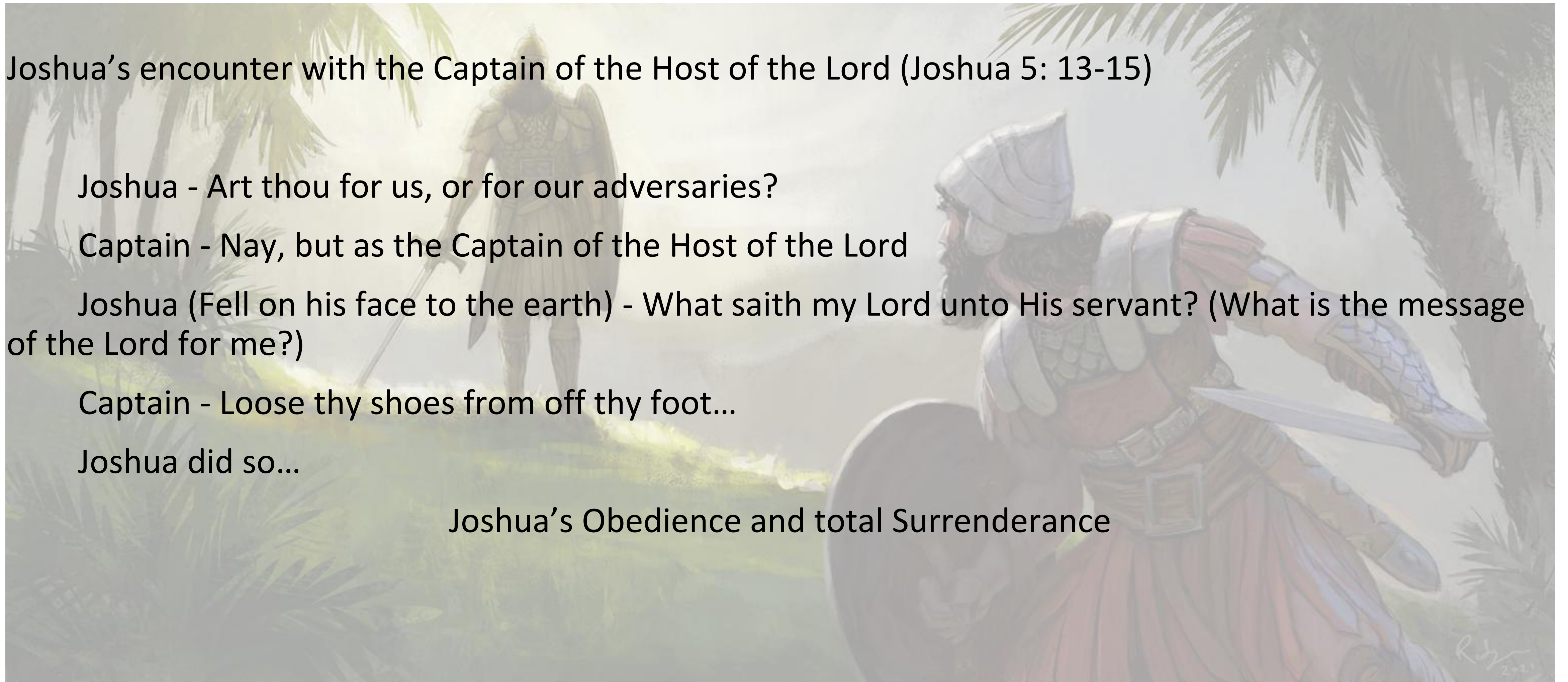
Captain - Nay, but as the Captain of the Host of the Lord

Joshua (Fell on his face to the earth) - What saith my Lord unto His servant? (What is the message of the Lord for me?)

Captain - Loose thy shoes from off thy foot...

Joshua did so...

Joshua's Obedience and total Surrenderance



Questions for the Counselling Session -3

1. What is the significance of crossing River Jordan and overcoming Jericho
2. What are the obstacles you are facing now?
3. How can you make those obstacles as your gateways and stepping stones?
4. How can you learn to ask the Lord like Joshua, “What message does my Lord have for his servant (Joshua 5:14)?