

**October 09, 2016**

**Series: Fear Knots**

**Sermon Title: *Before You and For You***

**Key Scriptures:**

**Joshua 1:7 (NRSV)**

**<sup>7</sup>Only be *STRONG & VERY COURAGEOUS*, being careful to act in accordance with all the law that my servant Moses commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, so that you may be *SUCCESSFUL WHEREVER YOU GO*.**

**The Key:**

**Stepping and Standing to Steady**

**STEP IN to step up (Be BRAVE)**

**Joshua 3:7-8 (NRSV) <sup>7</sup>The Lord said to Joshua, “This day I will begin to *EXALT YOU* in the sight of all *ISRAEL*, so that they may know that I will be *WITH YOU AS I* was *WITH MOSES*. <sup>8</sup>You are the one who shall command the priests who bear the *ARK* of the *COVENANT*, ‘When you *COME TO THE EDGE* of the *WATERS* of the *JORDAN*, you shall stand still in the Jordan.’”**

**Joshua 3:13 (NRSV) <sup>13</sup>When the soles of *THE FEET* of the *PRIESTS* who bear the *ARK* of the *LORD*, the Lord of all the earth, *REST IN THE WATERS* of the *JORDAN*, the waters of the Jordan flowing from above shall be cut off; they shall stand in a single heap.”**

The Mission of Clearbranch UMC is  
to ENGAGE people through relational ministry,  
to EQUIP disciples for Christ and  
to EMPLOY their gifts through missions.

**STEP OUT to step over (Be BOLD)**

Joshua 3:9-11 (NRSV) <sup>9</sup>Joshua then said to the Israelites, “Draw near and hear the words of the Lord your God.” <sup>10</sup>Joshua said, “***BY THIS YOU SHALL KNOW*** that among you is the living God who without fail will drive out from before you the Canaanites, Hittites, Hivites, Perizzites, Girgashites, Amorites, and Jebusites: <sup>11</sup>the ***ARK*** of the ***COVENANT*** of the Lord of all the earth is going to ***PASS BEFORE YOU*** into the Jordan.

Joshua 3:14-16 (NRSV) <sup>14</sup>When the people ***SET OUT*** from their tents to ***CROSS OVER*** the Jordan, the priests bearing the ***ARK*** of the ***COVENANT*** were ***IN FRONT*** of the people. <sup>15</sup>Now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest. So when those who bore the ark had come to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were ***DIPPED IN*** the edge of the water, <sup>16</sup>the ***WATERS FLOWING*** from above ***STOOD*** still, ***RISING UP*** in a single heap far off at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, while those flowing toward the sea of the Arabah, the Dead Sea, were wholly cut off. Then the ***PEOPLE CROSSED OVER*** opposite Jericho.

**STAND to steady others (Be STEADY)**

Joshua 3:17 (NRSV) <sup>17</sup>While all Israel were crossing over on dry ground, the ***PRIESTS*** who bore the ***ARK*** of the ***COVENANT*** of the Lord ***STOOD*** on dry ground ***IN THE MIDDLE*** of the Jordan, ***UNTIL*** the entire nation ***FINISHED CROSSING OVER*** the Jordan.

**Challenge Questions:**

**Where is God calling you to bravely step into the waters for Him?**

**How is God calling you to step out with boldness for Him?**

**In what ways can you stand to steady and strengthen others for Christ?**

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