

The Firing Line

"Passionately Advancing the Kingdom of God, we boldly go where few may follow."

The Firing Line is the quarterly publication of Crossfire Church.

Crossing Over

Into A Promised Land

An Article
By Harvey Wittmier

We walk through seasons and changes in life; in soul, body, circumstances, relationships, responsibilities and spiritual insight. We change geographic settings, move to another state or another city, or to new employment. We retire or rehire. We experience trauma, death, or other major loss. In these seasons and changes God offers opportunity to enter new territory emotionally and spiritually. I call this process ***crossing over to a promised land***. It is a place of deep trust and elevated faith in God and His kingdom ways. This process is paralleled in the Israelites crossing the Jordan River into the Promised Land. It is a big deal! It is supernatural when we follow God's lead. It demands spiritual acuity and attention to cross successfully.

Whether life changes are good or bad, ***we can become bitter or better***. It's a heart issue. It's a mindset. It's a decision as to what and with whom we will agree. God offers many opportunities to cross into new territory and possess new places of stability, strength and trust in Him. I want to share four keys from my recent teaching series that will help you understand such opportunities before, during and after walking through these seasons of change.

The 1st Key is to cross over in God's Timing.

Any significant life change, especially one that God is calling forth, has a timing component. Timing is a key to partnering with God. Don't jump ahead or lag behind what the Holy Spirit is doing. Discerning or understanding ***the times***, is critical. In Matthew 16:3 Jesus chastised the

leaders of his day saying, *'You know how to discern the face of the sky, but you cannot discern the signs of the times.'* There are signs in our lives and in the life of a nation that must be discerned and understood if we are to partner with what God is doing and how He is calling us to a new and better place.

Abram received a promise from God that was very big and involved some future timing. On several occasions God declares the promise of a land that will be given to him through Abram's offspring. *Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land.*

⁷ *The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him. Gen.12:6-7NIV.* The Bible calls this the Promised Land. God even told Abram to walk the land as a prophetic act of possessing the land but Abram did not live in the time of fulfillment of that promise. God gave the land to his descendants after they came out of Egypt and crossed the Jordan River. **The timing of 'crossing' into that land was critical to actually possessing it.** Israel initially failed to enter that land in God's timing by submitting to fear of the giants. **But God's redemptive plan reset the clock on fulfillment!** The result was a season of waiting, testing and maturing for 40 years. Forty is a number often used in scripture to depict a time of growing and testing before crossing over into a new level of responsibility. Jesus was in the wilderness for 40 days before launching his ministry. **So,**

even when we miss a step along the way of crossing over, God has redemptive provision for fulfillment!

The 2nd key is to cross over God's Way. A huge component of succeeding in those things authored and birthed by the Lord is *doing it His way, not our way*. Our way is the way of the flesh, i.e. the old man or human nature. The natural mind lives life through intellect and human emotion. While that can be sufficient in some aspects of earthly life, **it is not sufficient for the significant aspects of life**. Crossing the Jordan River illustrates how God can instruct and illuminate **the best way** for crossing over.

At the time Joshua and the people were to cross the Jordan the river was at flood stage. An entire nation with all of their material possessions, animals, children, and carts presented a far more difficult challenge than can be imagined. But the Lord gave Joshua instruction as to how to do it HIS WAY.

After three days the officers went throughout the camp, ³ giving orders to the people: "When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the Levitical priests carrying it, you are to move out from your positions and follow it. ⁴ Then you will know which way to go, since you have never been this way before. But keep a distance of about two thousand cubits between you and the ark; do not go near it." Joshua. 3:2-4 NIV....verse 11 See, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth will go into the Jordan ahead of you. ¹² Now then, choose twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one from each tribe. ¹³ And as soon as the priests who carry the ark of the LORD—the Lord of all the earth—set foot in the Jordan, its waters flowing downstream will be cut off and stand up in a heap." Joshua. 3: 11-13

The historical account of Joshua confirms that the river stopped flowing many miles upstream. As soon as the entire nation had crossed, the priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant stepped out of the river and the water began to flow again. Note that the Ark went first. Under the Old Covenant the **presence of the Lord was in the Ark**. Under the New Covenant the presence of the Lord is in

the manifestation of the Holy Spirit in you, upon you and around you. **He will be with you as you cross over!** His presence makes a way as you listen, discern and move with Him.

When God calls us to a new level of responsibility and to enter new territory, He expects a **new level of faith and consecration for us to rule in the new place**. We must be attuned at discerning the times and the timing, following His way and seeing things from His perspective...high above.

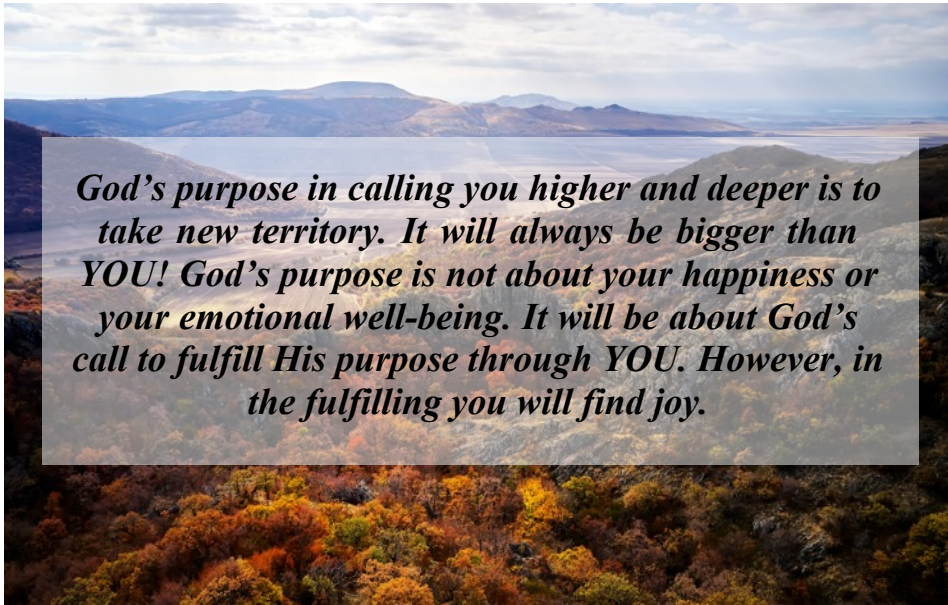
The 3rd key is seeing from God's Perspective.

The scriptural example of taking the Promised Land shows that God's perspective includes **seeing the victory based upon His promise**. God's perspective includes seeing a land, a territory, or a dimension of freedom, by faith, as **possessed, even before** the process of possessing begins. God's sees it as a 'done deal'. We must also see it as a done deal. That's His perspective. It must

also be our perspective.

God told Joshua before the crossing that 'every place you set your foot' is given to you. He said, ² "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. ³ I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses (Joshua 1:2, 3 NIV). Joshua began to see as God sees. He gained a perspective from high above, rather than seeing only the rushing water that flowed before him. God's heavenly perspective was from high above the land; seeing its dimensions and seeing the victories that would take it and possess it. Here we begin to understand the principle that when we see it from God's perspective, there is an agreement in faith that it will happen.

This may be one of the most challenging aspects in a believer's life. Our five natural senses are so strong and so trained in the natural that we routinely submit to the natural in our decisions. To develop God's perspective, we must seek Him in His written word, in our personal prayer and meditation with Him, in intentional developing of



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discernment, and in perceiving beyond that which is naturally evident. The times in which we live REQUIRE acuity of discernment ...discerning truth...discerning deception....discerning the times.....discerning doctrine....discerning signs. It is for the larger purpose of fulfilling God's purpose in and through us.

The 4th key in crossing over is God's Purpose.

God always has a purpose for calling us to a greater level of maturity, understanding, stability and trust. There is a greater good beyond ourselves! We must start with the most basic premise... **Gen. 1:1, 'In the beginning, God'**. We must KNOW that **God is God.....not one of many gods, but He alone is God!! He is the alpha and the omega**. He is the Lord of Lords. Every act of obedience, every change of heart, every word from His Spirit, every form of worship, and every human perspective must begin and be based upon **'In the beginning, God'**. If we don't submit to this basic Truth, we have no premise upon which to seek His purpose in our lives, or in the life of a nation. Abram again stands as an example of God's purpose revealed, a purpose far bigger than Abram. *The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you. ²I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.* **Gen. 12:1-3.** God's purpose is partially revealed in this promise to Abram. *All peoples on earth will be blessed through you.* That is a very big picture promise, but it would be fulfilled, even to today.

David had God's purpose demonstrated at several levels. He was anointed by Samuel and he began to cross over from shepherd to warrior, and from warrior to king. This crossing over began when He was called upon to go up against the Philistines who possessed part of Canaan, a coastal area originally given to Israel, but continued to be dominated by Philistines, descendants of the Canaanites. Goliath, the giant warrior of the Philistines, trash talks to the armies of God and scripture says, *'the Philistine cursed David by his gods'* (1 Sam. 17:43). Goliath profanely cursed God's anointed man through invoking pagan gods. David rose up against Goliath and the demonic realm and declared; ⁴⁶*This day the LORD will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the **whole world will know that there is a God in Israel*** (1 Sam. 17:46). David's purpose in this encounter is make a way so **'the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel'**. ²⁰¹³ **A big deal! Bigger than David.** Bigger than Israel. God's

purpose in calling you higher and deeper is to take new territory. **It will always be bigger than YOU! God's purpose is not about your happiness or your emotional well-being. It will be about God's call to fulfill His purpose through YOU.** However, in the fulfilling you will find joy.

The Apostle Paul had a purpose. His call and role in ministry is succinctly captured in this scripture. ⁵*Through Him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for His name's sake.* ⁶*And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ* (Romans 1:5-6 NIV). Paul was called to minister the Gospel to the Gentiles, the non-Jewish peoples of the known world. He was passionate for his Jewish brothers and sisters, but God called him to preach to the Gentiles! Don't assume that your love for a particular people or culture is where you are called.....**remember, it is not about YOU. It's about God!**

In closing, we see the ultimate 'crossing over' in the timing, way, perspective and purpose of Jesus. Jesus said, ²⁴*"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.* (John 5:24 NKJV). Jesus made a powerful pronouncement of the power of believing. This is a clear, non-ambiguous theological statement. Believing In Him and the Father who sent Him moves you from death to life eternally. God's timing for the Messiah was almost 2000 years ago. God's way to offer eternal life was through the cross and the resurrection. God perspective was that His son was the only one worthy to be the Passover lamb of sacrifice. God's purpose was to bless all nations through the lineage of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob by offering salvation through believing in the Son.

Such a person will not suffer eternal judgement because, according to other Truths of the New Covenant, Jesus took judgement intended for us, the sinners, upon himself on the cross, thereby being the sacrificial lamb to be judged on our behalf. When we believe and confess Him as Lord and Savior, God's judgment of us and our sin has been removed from us. Under the New Covenant this is the **most dramatic 'crossing over'** of all foundational Biblical truth!

Harvey Wittmier is an apostle and a pastor. He is passionate about equipping the church to navigate the last days.





CROSSFIRE

10:15 a.m. Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Pre-service Prayer

9:45 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

Crossfire meets at:

**3001 S. Acoma St.
Englewood, CO**

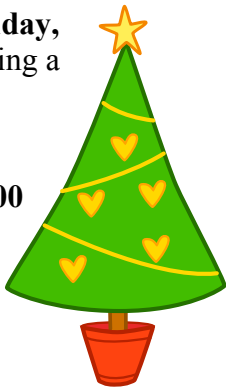


Bring your children to Children's Ministry with Pastor Peggy Nelson

Crossfire Events

•**Christmas Fellowship - Sunday, December 8 after church.** Bring a dish to share.

•**Christmas Eve Service - Tuesday, December 24 @ 6:00 PM.** Bring family and friends to our traditional one-hour candlelight service.



Christmas is Coming!

Please join us for a traditional Christmas Eve Service on Tuesday, December 24th at 6:00 PM. There will be carols and candlelight. Feel free to bring friends and family! We keep this service to one hour to accommodate your family Christmas festivities.

The Gospel Without Borders- Brexit from Brussels

During the month of October we committed Crossfire to intercede for the UK as the battle to break from Brussels. Pastor Harvey spoke with a ministry leader in the UK in September about this battle and intense political and spiritual clash of kingdoms. Some background.....in 2016 the people of the UK voted to leave the EU 52% to 48% to invoke what is called BREXIT, Britain exiting the European Union. Parliament, however, has a majority of those who do not want to go thru with BREXIT and would like to undo the 2016 electoral decision. The EU approved another delay until October 31 for an exit agreement. Boris Johnson, the UK PM succeeding Theresa May, reignited the exit process but was blocked in August when Parliament passed a law that dictates the UK cannot leave the EU on Oct. 31 without Parliament approving any new deal with the EU by Oct. 19. Such a deal was not approved by Parliament thus causing another governmental stalemate on Brexit. However, the good news is that at the time of this printing Parliament approved a new national election of Parliament set for December 12. The EU established another decision delay until January 2020. This sets the stage for a new cast of UK ministers to decide the issue in January.

Why is this important globally? The EU has a Godless constitution and is ruled by a secular governmental view that puts all major decisions for member nations in the hands of a small EU group in Brussels. This undermines the national identity and spiritual call that God has for each nation. England, Scotland and Wales were the primary world missions nations for over a century. That global call lies within their national DNA. However the role of the church has greatly decreased over the decades with only a remnant of that nation fully engaged with what the Holy Spirit is doing today. We intercede for the UK to break from Brussels into a place of freedom. As the UK enters freedom they will lead other nations to freedom. Therein lays the spiritual battle for the **Break from Brussels**.

Check out the specific word for the UK at crossfireminute.crossfirechurch.us under the article titled "The UK - DNA That Cries For Freedom".

Prophetic Perceptions - A Word For Crossfire Church ~ I saw a pipe or spout from which water was coming out and Crossfire was a mechanism at the bottom of the spout controlling where water would flow. Through our Spirit-led worship, prayer and more, Crossfire directs God's water to others. One of the things we need to be careful about in such a position is the question, "Where's my water?" Those who are in positions like Crossfire always see water flowing past them, never to them. They work and contend to direct the water, but others receive the water. It's important to understand that Crossfire's position is one of abundance, if we see it through God's perspective. The waters we direct are our assignments. They are not our portions. The portions God gives us to direct belong to others. Our portion does not look like the portions we direct, and it does not work in the same way. But we have a portion, and God looks at us with abundance. ~ DJ Martin 9.19

Daniel Martin is a prophet to the nations. He is adept at connecting believers with their calling.

