

across the river Jordan—no boats, no bridge. How shall this great army of men and women and children get across the river to enter the new home? Surely they would remember long ago when God helped them to cross the Red Sea. I am sure you remember about that. Tell me about it. Well, God is going to take them safely through the river Jordan also.

Describe the order given to the people by their officers, vs. 3-5. They were to follow their guide slowly and carefully for the way was new to them.

*God Their Guide*—Explain that the ark meant the presence of God amongst them, so it was really God going before them,—God their guide. Continue the story, vs. 7-17. Let us watch that procession. We can imagine we see the anxious faces as they wonder if God will really make a dry pathway for them through the river. Yes, yes, it is all coming true, just as Joshua said it would. God's promises never fail.

*The River of Death*—A short time ago we were talking about the home that God has promised us where we shall live for ever and ever. We cannot go to that home by boat or by train or by carriage of any sort. There is the river of death to be crossed and only One can guide us safely across. If we are

following Him closely we need not fear,—“Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.”

*An Unseen Guide*—Here is what a boy was thinking as he lay on the grass looking up through the trees:

“They tell me God is everywhere.  
I cannot see Him through the air,  
I look and cannot see Him here.  
But when I lift my voice in prayer  
I seem to feel Him very near.”

*Golden Text*—Repeat and print Golden Text, “Fear thou not: for I am with thee.”

*My Verse*—Repeat or sing:

“Follow Me,” the Master said:

We will follow Jesus:

By His word and spirit led,

We will follow Jesus:

Still for us He lives to plead,

At the throne doth intercede,

Offers help in time of need:

We will follow Jesus.

—Hymn 534, Book of Praise

*Blackboard*—Outline a banner with FOLLOW JESUS.

*Prayer*—Repeat v. 2, Hymn 584, Book of Praise, as a prayer.

*Something to Think About*—God is my guide.

### FROM THE PLATFORM

## JORDAN SEPARATING DIVIDED CROSSED

Call for the name of the river before which the Israelites now stood (Print JORDAN). Have a little talk about this river—its origin, its course, its peculiarities and its destination. Print SEPARATING, and ask from what the Jordan was separating Israel,—the land of Canaan, which God had promised to them and toward which He had been guiding them. Next, print DIVIDED. Bring out, by questioning, the wonderful story of the people's marching down to the swollen river, led by the priests bearing the ark, of the priests' taking their stand in the waters, and of the waters piled up above, while they slipped away below towards the Dead Sea, leaving a dry passage. Lastly, print CROSSED, and follow the great host to the Canaan side of the river. Trace the marvelous happenings back to the power of God, and impress the Lesson that we can count on the same power in our difficulties, if only we are in the path of obedience to Him.