



# Service Devotional Guide

## September 6, 2020

*Start by praying and asking God to meet you in this passage, the sermon, and the reading and prayers. Then read the following passage several times.*

### **Joshua 5: 9-12**

Then the Lord said to Joshua, ‘Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.’ So the place has been called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup> On the evening of the fourteenth day of the month, while camped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, the Israelites celebrated the Passover. <sup>11</sup> The day after the Passover, that very day, they ate some of the produce of the land: unleavened bread and roasted grain. <sup>12</sup> The manna stopped the day after they ate this food from the land; there was no longer any manna for the Israelites, but that year they ate the produce of Canaan.

### **Questions to Ponder**

1. The two rituals that the Israelites required before beginning to settle in were circumcision and Passover. Why were those two rituals in particular necessary?
2. Two analogous rituals in Christianity are baptism and communion. How are they similar to circumcision and Passover, and how are they different?
3. What are some of your own ‘settling in’ rituals in any new place or situation?
4. Transition often causes us to discover new aspects to our identity. In what ways has this time of transition shaped your own identity or faith?
5. Looking back over the series, what are some ways that following the journey of the Israelites’ exodus have helped you understand our own time of transition?

## **Closing Prayer**

Heavenly Father, we read through your word and see the wonderful plan of salvation which you carried out through your chosen people, Israel. Thank you that despite their disobedience, you never gave up on your covenant people - through whom was born the Messiah, the Passover Lamb of God. Thank you that you continue to carry out your plans and purposes through the Body of Christ, which is the Church. We praise your holy name through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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