

Discussion Guide

February 15, 2026

Chain Reaction - Week 3

“The Edge – The Step – The Miracle”

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Main Idea

God often brings us to the edge of His promises at the very moment conditions feel least favorable. In seasons that feel like flood stage, fear grows louder, and clarity can feel delayed, yet the Lord remains faithful to His word. The crossing of the Jordan teaches us that faith is not passive belief but obedient movement rooted in God’s presence. As one season of wandering ends and a new season of promise begins, spiritual formation takes place at the edge. The miracle is not produced by human strength but released through faithful steps taken in trust.

Anchor Verse: “Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water’s edge, the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (that is, the Dead Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho. The priests who carried the ark of the covenant of the Lord stopped in the middle of the Jordan and stood on dry ground, while all Israel passed by until the whole nation had completed the crossing on dry ground.”

(Joshua 3:15–17 NIV)

1. Fear Is Louder At Flood Stage

Flood stage seasons magnify what already exists in the heart. When pressure increases, fear attempts to narrate the future and interpret silence as abandonment. Yet Scripture makes clear that the promise of God did not change simply because the river was rising. The Lord intentionally brought Israel to the Jordan at flood stage to reveal that His faithfulness is not limited by unfavorable timing. Fear may grow louder when conditions appear overwhelming, but the voice of God remains steady

and true. Spiritual maturity is formed when we learn to anchor ourselves in His word rather than in our circumstances.

Scripture: Isaiah 41:10, Joshua 1:9

Discussion: When have you experienced a season that felt like flood stage in your life, where pressure seemed to drown out clarity? In what ways does fear attempt to interpret God's silence or delay as absence? How can you practically train your heart to distinguish between the voice of fear and the steady assurance of God's promises in moments of uncertainty?

2. Faith Steps Before The Water Moves

Faith in Scripture is not abstract agreement but embodied obedience. The priests did not wait for the river to part before they stepped forward; they stepped while the current was still strong. Hebrews defines faith as confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see, and Joshua demonstrates what that confidence looks like in action. God's power was revealed not after careful calculation but in response to obedient movement. The miracle did not precede the step; the step preceded the miracle. In the kingdom of God, obedience often unlocks what hesitation delays.

Scripture: Hebrews 11:1, James 2:17

Discussion: Where in your life are you tempted to wait for certainty before obeying what God has already made clear? How does fear disguise itself as wisdom or caution in your decision-making? What would it look like to take one concrete step of obedience this week, trusting that God is already at work beyond what you can see?

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

(Hebrews 11:1 NIV)

SUMMARY

The Lord brings His people to the edge, not to abandon them but to form them. Fear may rise in seasons of pressure, yet God's promise remains unchanged. Faith is revealed when obedience precedes visible evidence, and miracles unfold in response to trust rooted in His presence. As we move from one season into another, we are invited to step forward with confidence, knowing that God is already at work upstream. The edge becomes holy ground when surrender replaces hesitation.

CALL TO ACTION

- Identify one area where fear has delayed obedience and take a tangible step of faith this week.
 - Replace anxious internal narratives with a specific promise from Scripture and meditate on it daily.
 - Invite a trusted, faith-filled believer to pray with you about the step you sense God calling you to take.
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GROUP LEADER RESOURCE

Faith Step Moment

Invite each participant to write down one specific area in which they feel at flood stage. Allow a few quiet minutes for reflection and prayer. Then, in pairs, have each person share the step of obedience they believe God is prompting them to take. Close by praying over one another, asking the Lord to strengthen their faith and remind them that His presence goes before them.