

## Circumcision at Gilgal - Joshua 5:1-12

**Topics:** Celebration, Disobedience, Forgiveness, Guilt, Healing, Obedience, Promises, Reconciliation, Submission

### Open It

1. For what reasons have you lost touch with some of your good friends from high school or college?
2. How does it feel to be separated from a close friend or loved one?
- \* 3. How does it feel to be reunited with a friend you haven't seen for a long time?

### Explore It

4. What did the Amorite and Canaanite kings hear about the God of Israel? (5:1)
5. What reaction did the foreign kings have toward the news about Israel and their God? (5:1)
6. What was the last thing the Israelites had to do before they could enter the Promised Land? (5:2)
- \* 7. How did Joshua respond to the Lord's command to circumcise the Israelites? (5:2-3)
8. For what reasons was it necessary to circumcise the Israelites again? (5:4-7)
9. Why did the Israelites wander in the desert for forty years? (5:6)
10. To whom had the Lord promised the land of Canaan? (5:6)
11. What does this passage reveal about the expectations the Israelites had about the Promised Land? (5:6)
- \* 12. How did the Lord respond to the Israelites' obedience to His command to be circumcised? (5:9)
- \* 13. What issue was reconciled through the circumcision of the Israelites? (5:9)
14. How did the Israelites demonstrate their renewed commitment to the Lord after they were circumcised? (5:10)
15. How was the Israelites' celebration significant in light of what they had just done? (5:10)
16. For what reason had the manna stopped appearing for the Israelites? (5:12)

### Get It

17. What do the actions of Joshua in this passage teach us about submission and obedience?
- \* 18. What does this passage show us about the reliability of God's promises?
19. How do you think the Israelites felt about their relationship with the Lord while they were wandering in the desert?
20. What emotions do you think the Israelites felt when they knew they were fully reconciled with the Lord and on their way to the Promised Land?
21. How does it feel to know you are forgiven and accepted by God?
22. When have you ever felt separated from God?
23. What do we need to do if our relationship with the Lord becomes severed?
- \* 24. In what creative ways can we celebrate our reconciliation with the Lord?
25. What is one area of your spiritual life that you have had difficulty fully committing to the Lord?
26. What does this passage teach us about God's forgiveness?

### Apply It

27. What step could you take today to accept God's forgiveness for all your sin?
28. What specific steps can you take this week to commit to the Lord one area in your life that you have withheld from Him?
- \* 29. Keeping in mind a specific promise from the Lord, how can you remind yourself to claim this promise when you need it most during the week?