

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

REMEMBER, DON'T FORGET • JOSHUA 4:1-24 • MARCH 2, 2023

FAITHFUL

Foundational Practice: Celebrating the work of God

This month, we are focusing on our foundational practice of Celebrating the Work of God. We mark moments, mark memories, and joyfully delight in life with God! We call out God's work in one another's lives and praise the One who created and delights in us (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). As you spend time in God's Word this week, ask the Holy Spirit to remind you of the marked moments in your life and to show you how to share those moments with others.

- 1. Read Joshua 4:1-24 aloud** (each person taking a section). What are your observations about God in the passage? What repeated themes or messages do you see? What was most meaningful to you from this passage or the teaching this week?
- 2.** The key theme in this passage is one of remembering. What did the 12 stone memorial serve as a reminder for the children of Israel about God? If you have any "memorials" in your life that serve a similar purpose, share what they are with your group.
- 3.** Like the children of Israel, we can be quick to forget the abundant ways God has been faithful to us. Think of a situation from this past week where you forgot about the faithfulness of God. Describe the situation and how remembering God's faithfulness would have changed your reaction(s) to the circumstance.
- 4.** What are some family history, traditions, or annual events that you want to carry forward in your life and/or family. Share why those are significant to you.

"A sign is something that serves and points to a greater reality and something that is there to draw our attention."

-MIKE SLAYDEN

- 5. Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9** (known as the Shema). Every Jewish person would have memorized this passage, had it inscribed on a scroll and placed in a box (mezuzah) fastened to the doorpost of their homes. This is part of the great commandment Jesus quotes in Matthew 22:35-40, Mark 12:28-34, and Luke 10:27. How does this help you see that the God of the Old Testament is the same God of the New Testament?

CLOSING CHALLENGE

Read 1 Peter 2:4-8. Jesus is the cornerstone of our faith. Peter says we are living stones God is using to build His house (the Kingdom of God).

- Do you see yourself as an active participant God wants to use to enlist in the building of His Kingdom?
- Take a few minutes to meditate on how your lives as living stones are to be anchored to the finished work of Jesus as the capstone.
- Consider one or two ways you can partner with the Holy Spirit to be living stones God is using to build the Kingdom of God.
- Group prayer challenge: discipline your closing prayer time to prayers of thanksgiving; remembering specific ways God has been faithful to you.