



Stones of Remembrance – Message 4

Announcements

Women's Night // Tuesday, October 2 // Event starts at 7:00PM (Doors open at 6:30PM) // Little Creek Campus. Ladies, invite your friends and join us for a dynamic Women's Night featuring speaker, singer, songwriter, and pastor DawnCheré Wilkerson of VOUS Church in Miami.

Warm-up

Share with the group about a time when someone gave you a gift that made you feel special. How did it strengthen the relationship? Why is this memory so special for you?

Word and Application

We are continuing with our fourth week studying the book of Joshua. In this series, we have been looking at how we can step into our future with confidence. Today we will discuss the power of remembering what God has done in our lives.

One of the most powerful habits we can develop as Christians is to learn how to reflect and remember what God has done in our life. We need to be sure we do not get stuck in our past but to properly reflect on God's faithfulness. When we focus on what God has done in our past, it will give us a foundation and boldness to pursue the future God has for us.

Read Joshua 4:1-7, Exodus 3:7 & I Thessalonians 5:24.

God delivered the Israelites from the bondage of slavery through the Red Sea into the wilderness. Because of their lack of trust in the Lord, they ended up wandering in the wilderness for 40 years instead of the original 11-day journey. However, God kept His promise by bringing them into the Promised Land. The stones were stones of remembrance, a testimony of the faithfulness of God in their lives and a legacy for their children. The stones emphasized the importance of what God did, not by their effort, their prayer life, or anything else they did. In the same way, God wants us to have our own stones of remembrance.

What have you walked through with God that is now a testimony to your friends and family? How have your stones of remembrance helped their lives?

Three Things the Memorial Stones Signified

1. A Renewed Personal Commitment.

Read Joshua 4:8-9.

Many men and women in the Bible made fresh commitments to God right after He visited them. There is something about making a fresh personal commitment to Christ right after God visits us and works on our behalf. God visited Jacob in a dramatic way that forever changed his life and an entire nation. When God visits us, we are changed and our commitment increases because our eyes are fixed on the destiny God has for us.

Can you remember a time when God visited you? How did that experience propel you into the next season of life?

2. A Rolling Away of Old Defeats.

Read Joshua 4:19-20 , I Samuel 17:40 & Psalm 32:19.

These stones served as visible reminders of how God is larger than anything we may face.

What has God delivered you from since you've been walking with Him? How has that built your faith?

3. A Recognition of the Future.

Read Matthew 19:26 & Revelation 12:11.

Once we experience the mighty hand of God in our life, we need to store those things in our heart. The Lord can redeem everything that we go through, our mistakes and even when people have wronged us. Everything God does is designed to encourage people to come into a deeper relationship with Him.

Is there something you are waiting for God to redeem in your life? How does the word of our testimony strengthen and give power to our tomorrows?

Life Challenge

We are the most creative when we are connected with our Creator. Brainstorm as a group a creative way to remember the stones of your past. It could be by creating artwork, or writing a song or poem. It could be through journaling, video or writing inside your Bible the journey God has walked with you. We can use these practical memorials to share with loved ones and as a reminder to ourselves the next time our faith is challenged. Share your creative way with your group next week.

Prayer

Thank the Lord for His faithfulness. In **Joel 2:32**, His Word says, "And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, as the Lord has said, among the remnant whom the Lord calls." Thank the Lord for being YOUR Deliverer, Redeemer, and Savior. Pray for the specific needs of your small group.