

A Psalm of Remembrance

Psalm 106

We continue our Psalms summer sermon series today with a look at Psalm 106. Historical and confessional in nature, this lengthy prayer-song shows the shocking consequences of forgetting God...but also reminds us of an even more shocking truth: God will *never* forget His people!

The two big takeaways in this psalm?

1. Our _____ is to forget.

Our forgetting comes in two forms:

2. Our _____ is to remember.

Why remembering is important:

What should we remember?

Lagniappe: A Note from Len

To my Ruston family of faith,

Barring something TOTALLY unexpected, this is my last sermon as a staff member at The Bridge.

I'm not sure what protocol calls for at a time like this, but I figure saying *something* is better than saying nothing. And, as Cindi often reminds me, "less is more."

So "thank you."

Thanks for hiring me in 1990. I, like most still-wet-behind-the-ears pastors, didn't have a *clue* what I was doing. (This is why congregations with rookie shepherds often feel more like guinea pigs or lab rats than sheep!) Over the years, I did a million things wrong. I know that. I also know that you, as a flock, demonstrated amazing patience with me. In showing me such steady grace, you taught me more than any seminary class ever could have.

Thanks too for the chance to walk alongside you for almost 25 years. What a rare gift! "Doing life together" was the catchy phrase we used (or overused?) back in the day to talk about the kind of authentic community we were trying to build. But it ended up being much more than a slogan. We really did that—i.e., "life together." Fun times and hard stuff both. In my own dark moments, it's fair to say that *you* shepherded me. I figure I learned more about loving God and loving people from watching many of *you*, than you ever could have learned from watching and listening to me. Thanks for all those examples of faith and hope and love.

At this time of transition, I am reminded of the old wisecrack: "Clergymen are paid to be good; everyone else is good for nothing." I suppose that means I now become a "good for nothing" layperson! If so, once again, I'm a clueless rookie! I'm trusting y'all to help me learn to navigate "churchworld" from the other side.

But seriously...I'm excited. We have a solid church made up of folks with good hearts and amazing gifts. Our leaders are wise and trustworthy. They've got us pointed in a healthy direction. Great opportunities are just ahead. It's fun to dream about all that God might do.

I'm rambling now. (Less is more, right?)

Thanks again, for everything. I love y'all more than I can say.

In Christ,

Len