



# Outward Group Discussion Guide

November 30, 2025 (Silverton)

## SUMMARY

This sermon explores the Israelites' journey through the wilderness in Exodus 15-17, emphasizing how God tested them to teach them to remember His faithfulness. The central message is that while Christians have "the answer" to life's tests—Jesus Christ—we often forget to trust Him when trials come. Just as the Israelites repeatedly failed to remember God's provision despite constant evidence (manna, water from the rock, crossing the Red Sea), we too struggle with spiritual amnesia. The sermon challenges believers to actively remember who God is and what He has done, rather than becoming complacent or feeling entitled to His blessings. Through the striking of the rock that brought forth water, we see a foreshadowing of Christ taking our punishment and providing living water. The core encouragement is to do whatever it takes—set reminders, create visual cues, engage in community—to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, because memory generates hope, and remembering God's past faithfulness gives us confidence for future trials.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In what ways have you experienced 'distorted nostalgia' where you've romanticized a sinful past while forgetting the pain it caused you and others?
2. When facing trials, why do we often forget that Jesus is the answer even though we know it intellectually, and what practical steps can help us remember in those moments?
3. How does the Israelites' repeated failure to trust God despite witnessing miracles mirror your own struggles with faith during difficult seasons?
4. What does it reveal about God's character that He continued to provide for the Israelites even when they complained, disobeyed, and tested Him?
5. Have you ever felt like you've sinned too greatly or gone too far for God to reach you, and how does Romans 5:8 challenge that belief?
6. What 'jar of manna' could you create in your life as a tangible reminder of God's faithfulness when you're tempted to forget what He's done?

7. How does complacency in your faith show up—in worship, service, or relationships—and what would it look like to recapture that early passion for Christ?
8. Why do we tend to ask 'Is God still with me now?' even after experiencing His presence before, and what does this reveal about our understanding of His faithfulness?
9. In what ways does the rock being struck instead of the people prefigure Christ taking our punishment, and how should this shape our daily response to God's grace?
10. How does remembering what God has done in the past generate hope for your future, especially when facing tests that feel impossible to pass?