

bold *take the Land*

PART THREE: REMEMBER TO REMEMBER

In the fourth chapter of Joshua, God instructs the Israelites to halt on the shores of the Promised Land and take the time to erect a memorial using 12 stones from the Jordan River. By doing this, we learn a valuable lesson: **Monuments drive the movement.** As a church, we should intentionally take time to remember and celebrate God's faithfulness. Our past victories are vital for future success, and being used by God is a privilege and honor that we will never take for granted.

BIG IDEA: **Monuments drive the Movements.**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What memorials or monuments that you have visited in the past that made an impact on you? Why do you think it made an impact?

Pastor Chris highlighted three things that can occur when we take the time to stop and remember important events:

I. It connects me with all God has done.

2. *With your Bible or the BibleApp, read Joshua 4.*

When all the people had crossed the Jordan, the Lord said to Joshua, "Now choose twelve men, one from each tribe. Tell them, 'Take twelve stones from the very place where the priests are standing in the middle of the Jordan. Carry them out and pile them up at the place where you will camp tonight.'" So Joshua called together the twelve men he had chosen—one from each of the tribes of Israel. He told them, "Go into the middle of the Jordan, in front of the Ark of the Lord your God. Each of you must pick up one stone and carry it out on your shoulder—twelve stones in all, one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel. We will use these stones to build a memorial. In the future your children will ask you, 'What do these stones mean?' Then you can tell them, 'They remind us that the Jordan River stopped flowing when the Ark of the Lord's Covenant went across.' These stones will stand as a memorial among the people of Israel forever." So the men did as Joshua had commanded them. They took twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan River, one for each tribe, just as the Lord had told Joshua. They carried them to the place where they camped for the night and constructed the memorial there. Joshua also set up another pile of twelve stones in the middle of the Jordan, at the place where the priests who carried the Ark of the Covenant were standing. And they are there to this day. Joshua 4:1-9 (NLT)

3. Why do you think God chose this specific time and method to have them commemorate crossing the Jordan?
4. What are you doing to preserve God's work for future generations?
5. Are you running so hard for tomorrow that you've not taken the time to remember what God has done for you in the past?
6. Some moments forever mark our lives. What have you experienced in your past that God could use for building faith in others? Do you have a testimony/Story to share?
7. *With your Bible or the BibleApp, read Romans 8:28.*

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. Romans 8:28 (NASB)

8. How might God use what you've walked through to fulfill His promise in Romans 8:28 that He causes all things to work together for good to those who love him?
9. Have you received inspiration or encouragement from someone's story? Explain.
10. Is it easier to see the power and presence of God in someone else's story more so than your own? Why or why not?

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II. It allows me to experience what God is doing.

11. How often do you find yourself asking God: "Are we there yet?"
12. Is God prompting you to set aside time to remember an event in your life, even if it's painful?
13. In what creative ways might you commemorate the memorial-worthy events in your life and in the life of your family?
14. What are you involved in right now that could change the world?

III. It gives me confidence in what God will do.

15. What was the last significant challenge you faced? How did God show His presence in the midst of it?
16. Have you ever experienced something so big, it felt paralyzing? What helped you face your fear? How can remembering what God has done in your past, help you through today?
17. Fill in the blank...."He is the same God who delivered me from _____. So, I will trust Him with _____."
18. God wants to strengthen your faith today and give you courage for tomorrow. Will you let God reframe your past? How will you keep from forgetting where you've come from and who helped you get there?

MOVING FORWARD

What are some areas that God has shown up and shown out in your past? Times when He has proven His faithfulness to you? As a group, take some rocks and write on them some of those events in your past, and make your own moment of God's faithfulness as a group by placing these stones in a glass vase or somewhere else to be displayed. This would also be a great interactive activity to do together with your family.

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WHAT WILL YOU DO?

This would be a great time as a group to do communion together. Communion is the New Testament way for us to purify ourselves and prepare ourselves for God to move in some big ways. Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-24 and spend some time getting right with God personally.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

We will use these stones to build a memorial. In the future your children will ask you, 'What do these stones mean?' Then you can tell them, 'They remind us that the Jordan River stopped flowing when the Ark of the Lord's Covenant went across.' These stones will stand as a memorial among the people of Israel forever."
Joshua 4:6-7

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