

TAKE GROUND Part 4

“REMEMBER”

Joshua 4:1-7 When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua, ²“Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe,³ and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, from right where the priests are standing, and carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight.”

⁴So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe, ⁵ and said to them, “Go over before the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites,⁶ to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean?’⁷ tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever.”

Today:

- 1) Identify
- 2) Share
- 3) Remember

1) IDENTIFY YOUR MIRACLE!

The Jordan River was the boundary between the wilderness and the promised land.

-This river separated them from 430 years of Gods promise

-Hundreds of years of slavery and 40 years of wilderness/desert

-Now on the edge.

-The promised land is in sight.

God took the WHOLE nation through:

Joshua 4:4-6 So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe,⁵ and said to them, “Go over before the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites,⁶ to serve as a sign among you.”

Numbers 26 explains that 600,000 men (not including kids and women)

-They were divided into 12 tribes.

-Instructed to Grab 12 Stones:

-12 stones= 12 tribes of Israel

-took the Stones from where the ARK was located

TAKE TIME TO IDENTIFY YOUR MIRACLES.....OR YOU CAN MISS THEM!

2) SHARE YOUR MIRACLE

Joshua 4:6-7 In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean?’⁷ tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off.

-Sometimes we don't want our kids to know about our troubles!

-I think we do them a disservice!

-We BUILD their faith by sharing our VICTORIES

-We TEACH them faithfulness through our MISTAKES

-God's faithfulness and our will to keep fighting!

Revelations 12:11 They triumphed over him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.

-Our testimony gives the Devil a black eye!

The stones weren't there just for God's people, but God's enemies too.

You need to have your stones placed so the devil can see them.

When he comes to try to discourage or defeat you, you point to your stones.

You tell the devil, the same God who beat you then, is the same God who is going to defeat you again.

Genesis 50:20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

-Only God can do that!

Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

-“IN” ALL THINGS (Doesn't mean he caused it to happen)

GOD CAN AND WILL REDEEM ANYTHING IF WE LET HIM!

3) REMEMBER YOUR MIRACLE

Anyone FORGETFUL??

Joshua 4:7 These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever.”

FOR ISRAEL: 87 scriptures REMINDING ISRAEL about Egypt!

-HISTORY HAS A SHORT MEMORY!

-WE CAN MOVE ON AND FORGET!

Deuteronomy 8:7-18 For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs gushing out into the valleys and hills; ⁸ a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey; ⁹ a land where bread will not be scarce and you will lack nothing; a land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills.

¹⁰ When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you. ¹¹ Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your

God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. ¹² Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, ¹³ and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, ¹⁴ then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

¹⁵ He led you through the vast and dreadful wilderness, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock. ¹⁶ He gave you manna to eat in the wilderness, something your ancestors had never known, to humble and test you so that in the end it might go well with you. ¹⁷ You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” ¹⁸ But **REMEMBER the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.**

- 1.
- 2.
3. WE “IDENTIFY” OUR MIRACLE
4. WE SHARE OUR MIRACLE
5. WE “REMEMBER” OUR MIRACLE!

Don't let what God did become DISTANT MEMORIES

Stop and REMEMBER

- We STOP and Take Communion
- We STOP and read the Christmas Story before we open presents
- We STOP and pray before we eat
- We STOP and go to Church on Saturdays or Sundays

We STOP to remind ourselves what is MOST IMPORTANT

---we need to be reminded

TODAY.....WE STOP and REMEMBER!

1) Take time to “Identify” your miracles!

-Not just the RED SEA moments.

2) How can you “Share” your miracles!

-Someone needs to hear it!

3) TODAY: We take the time to “Remember” together!