



BREAKING THE ICE

Do you have specific memories of Sunday afternoons growing up? Share a memory with your group.

What is one piece of advice your mom (or another motherly figure) has taught you about life?

MAIN CONTENT

This week we are continuing our conversation about Battles and Blessings in the life of Joshua.

Over the last few weeks we've talked about God calling Joshua to lead the Israelites to the Promised Land. The more time Joshua spent with the God, the more courage he had to do what God had called him to do.

The battle to get the Israelites to the Promised Land was hard but, in the midst of it, Joshua remembered God's blessings.

1. What is one blessing God has reminded you of in the last two months?

God called Joshua to be strong and courageous. Sometimes in life we have trouble seeing our way forward, but even in those moments, we can remember who God says we are. In the message this week, Pastor Kevin said, "Who you are in life depends on your ability to remember."

2. What is one positive or encouraging thing someone has told you about yourself you can remember and cling to when you feel down?

God wanted the Israelites to remember how he had delivered them to the Promised Land. Last week we read about them consecrating themselves and crossing the Jordan River to continue their journey into the Promise Land.

This week as we read Joshua 4, we see the specific instructions for how they were to commemorate what

MAIN CONTENT

God had done.

Read Joshua 4:1-9

In this scripture we see that God wanted the Israelites to have a visual reminder of what He had done, the miracle He had performed for them and the incredible way in which He provided for them.

3. Is there a physical place or thing that reminds you of something God has done in your life? Explain.

God asked Joshua to build two stacks of stones to remember their journey into the Promised Land. One was hidden in the Jordan River, the other was where everyone could see it.

The hidden memorial can be a reminder of the things God sees that no one else does. The times we cry out to Him, spend time with Him, the generosity others don't see, God sees. Those moments matter with God. He sees them, and He is pleased with you.

4. What moment(s) do you want to remember from the last few months?

We can easily forget things God wants us to remember. We can let them pass by and forget to document what God is doing in our lives at the time.

When we look back at the times God moved in our lives it gives us fresh hope and reminds us of his faithfulness. When God asked Joshua to make two memorials he was looking for a way to visually document what had just happened. It was visual because they didn't have an easy way to write things down and record them. This visual reminder was the way they documented God's faithfulness in their lives.

5. What is one way you can document the blessings and faithfulness of God in your life?

We may feel our current situation is not an ideal time to document what is going on. We might even wonder what we would want to remember from this time. But in times like these, we can look back on God's faithfulness of the past to give us some hope for the future.

Even in the battles we are currently in, there are small blessings we can look for. We can thank God for the small things and look back at his faithfulness during the hard times.

6. What is one act of God's faithfulness from the last two weeks you can thank Him for?

When we go back and remember how we started our relationship with Jesus, it builds our faith. And when we share those stories and memories of how He has been faithful, it builds others' faith.

7. What memories do you have of your decision to follow Jesus? How has your life changed from that decision?

8. Who can you share your faith with?

PRAYER

Father God, Thank you for loving us and thank you for saving us. Please help us remember what it felt like when we chose to follow you. Where you have shown your faithfulness in the past, please call those stories to our memory. Help us see the blessings in the midst of our current battles. Fill us with faith to continue on through our troubles. In Jesus' name, Amen.

ACTION STEP

This week, be courageous and tell someone about where God has been faithful in your life. That could be writing a note of encouragement, sharing your story of how you came to follow Jesus to help someone else's faith grow or a conversation with a friend about where you have seen God answer a prayer in your life in the last few weeks.

Document your gratitude and blessings this week. Even if they seem small, focusing on ways God has moved in our lives shifts our perspective in big ways.