

July 4, 2021

Pastors Steve Hardy &
Andy McClellan

Title: "Remembering God's Grace"

Series: Joshua

Scripture Reading: Joshua 4:1-10 (ESV)

Outline:

Remembering God's grace...

1. Is the **PURPOSE** for memorial **SYMBOLS**, Joshua 4:1-7 (*cf. Genesis 9:13, 1 Samuel 7:12; 1 Corinthians 11:24; Romans 6:4*).
2. Is part of **RAISING** disciples **AMONG US**, vv. 6-7, 21-24 (*cf. Exodus 13:14, Deuteronomy 6:20; Psalm 78:1-8, 106:8-12; Hebrews 13:7*).
3. Is part of **MAKING** disciples of **ALL NATIONS**, v. 24; (*cf. Matthew 28:18-20 Psalm 96, 114; Romans 6:7, 18; 1 Cor. 11:24-26; Ephesians 2:10-13; 1 Peter 3:21*).



What traditions, ceremonies or symbols did/does your family have for the purpose of remembering people, things or moments? Why are they observed and why are they valuable? Are any of them connected to remembering the grace that God has shown? If they are, discuss how they do so? If not, brainstorm together some new traditions, ceremonies or symbols that you can use to remember God's grace and faithfulness to your family.

FOR FURTHER THOUGHT, STUDY AND DISCUSSION

1. Compare the second commandment (Exodus 20:4-6) with Joshua 4:1-7. What is the difference between an idol and a memorial? Why are memorials an asset to true worship, while idols are the antithesis of true worship? What do we need to do to protect our minds and hearts from turning memorials (or anything else) into an idol that we worship, rather than a reminder of God's great faithfulness toward us?
2. Read Judges, ch. 2. After Joshua, why did the nation of Israel turn to false gods and turn away from the LORD? How were the memorials and symbols given by God through Exodus and Joshua intended to help in preventing that apostasy? What happened? How is this instructive for us in our use of memorials and symbols as a part of raising up the next generation to know and love God?
3. Joshua 4:24 makes clear that God's grace over Israel at the Jordan was intended to be a message that they proclaimed to all the peoples of the earth. Using the cross-references in point #3 above, what two main symbols has God given His church to help them remember His grace, and so that the world will know His grace? HINT: If you have never been baptized and would like to be, please contact a member of the pastoral staff.

NEXT WEEK: Asa Hart (DCC Elder Candidate for Pastor of Discipleship), Joshua 5:1-9

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