

Title: God's Call to Remember

Passage: Deuteronomy 6:4-12; Proverbs 2:1-8

Introduction:

Trinity Community Church Ministry Vision: to bring glory to God by building up and equipping its members for living out the Gospel in every facet of life. (“Building it up; Living it out”)

Spiritual selective memory

- necessary for a life of faith in Christ

Biblical Forgetting

- forget past sins and issues

Isaiah 43:18

“Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old.

Isaiah 43:25

“I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.

Micah 7:19

He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

Biblical Remembering

- call to remember God and His work

Isaiah 46:8-9

“Remember this and stand firm, recall it to mind, you transgressors, remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me,

Passage: Deuteronomy 6:4-12

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

“And when the Lord your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you—with great and good cities that you did not build, and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant—and when you eat and are full, then take care lest you forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

Exposition

Deuteronomy 6:12

then take care lest you forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

- Israel was called to remember

Judges 21:25

In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.

- But Israel eventually forgot God.

Remember

- Key to life in faith in Christ

Ecclesiastes 12:1

Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near of which you will say, "I have no pleasure in them";

- Solomon looked back on his life, realizing a life not finishing well, and calls others to remember
- Why? Evil days to come.

Passage: 7 commands

- Teach
- Talk
- Walk the walk of faith
- Lie down in the Lord
- Rise up in the Lord
- Bind the truth of God's Word on my heart
- Write God's Word into the very existence of my life.

Rest of Deuteronomy: 15 times to "remember"

What can you remember?

- Your history with God
- Prayers answered

Isaiah 59:1

Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or His ear dull, that it cannot hear

- Needs met

Psalms 18:6

In my distress I called upon the LORD; to my God I cried for help. From His temple He heard my voice, and my cry to Him reached His ears.

- Peace during tough times

Isaiah 43:1-3

Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior...

- Specific guidance during difficult decisions

Isaiah 48:9-11

For My name's sake I defer My anger, for the sake of My praise I restrain it for you, that I may not cut you off.

Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tried you in the furnace of affliction. For My own sake, for My own sake, I do it, for how should My name be profaned? My glory I will not give to another."

- Freed from penalty of sin by faith in Christ

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

- Celebrate new spiritual birth in Christ

John 1:12-13

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

- Sustaining power of God in a world that's lost its way

Psalms 73:26

My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

- Sovereignty of God by which we can comfortably rest

Isaiah 14:24

The LORD of hosts has sworn: "As I have planned, so shall it be, and as I have purposed, so shall it stand"

- God's faithfulness through times of disobedience

Luke 15:20

And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

- God's continual presence wherever went

Psalms 139:7-8

Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

- Other people God brought into your life to encourage and mentor you

1 Thessalonians 2:8

So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.

- God's emancipation of you from sin

Titus 3:5-6

he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

But memory alone does not translate into victorious living

- action is necessary

James 1:22-25

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

Passage: Proverbs 2:1-10

My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk in integrity, guarding the paths of justice and watching over the way of his saints. Then you will understand righteousness and justice and equity, every good path; for wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;

Exposition

Action is required for faith in Christ. What do do with God's Word?

- Receive it
- Make ear attentive to it
- Incline heart to it
- Call out
- Raise your voice
- Seek it
- Search for it

Philippians 3:10-14

that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 2:12-13

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.