"The Past Recounted"

"The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad." (Psalm 126:3)

Forgetting & Remembering

<u>Genesis 41:51</u> – "Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh. 'For,' he said, 'God has made me forget all my hardship and all my father's house.'"

Exodus 18:4 – "(Moses) name(d)...the other, Eliezer (for he said, 'The God of my father was my help, and delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh')."

Setting Up Memorial Stones

Joshua 4:1-3, 6-7 – (1) "When all the nation had finished passing over the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua, (2) 'Take twelve men from the people, from each tribe a man, (3) and command them, saying, 'Take twelve stones from here out of the midst of the Jordan, from the very place where the priests' feet stood firmly, and bring them over with you and lay them down in the place where you lodge tonight.' (6) that this may be a sign among you. When your children ask in time to come, 'What do those stones mean to you?' (7) then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it passed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones shall be to the people of Israel a memorial forever."

<u>1 Corinthians 11:23-26</u> — (23) "For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, (24) and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, 'This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' (25) In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' (26) For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

Key Point: Choose to Remember the Good God has done

Reasons for Recounting:

Leverage for the Present

1 Samuel 17:37 — "And David said, 'The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.' And Saul said to David, 'Go, and the LORD be with you!"

Reminder to Praise God

124:2-6 – (2) "if it had not been the LORD who was on our side when people rose up against us, (3) then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us; (4) then the flood would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us; (5) then over us would have gone the raging waters. (6) Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth!"

Equip the Next Generation

<u>Psalm 79:13</u> – "But we your people, the sheep of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever; from generation to generation we will recount your praise."

<u>Judges 2:10</u> — "And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the LORD or the work that he had done for Israel."

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

Do I tend to view the past through a self-centered or God-centered lens? (Ps. 143:5)

Am I purposefully using the past for edification in the present? (Philippians 4:8)

Am I intentionally recounting God's past working for those under my Spiritual care? (Deuteronomy 11:19-21; 2 Peter 1:15)