

THE IMPORTANCE OF REMEMBERING

1. **REMEMBERING**—What are the kind of things you tend to remember—big or small, positive or negative—and what is the value or remembering them?
2. **REFLECTING**—Why do you remember these things, what do you do that reminds you, repeats them, or retells the memory in your own life or family life?
3. **DISCOVERING**—Read the passages below and answer the questions that precede each.

- What do we learn from God’s warning to Israel before entering the promised land about us?

When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. ¹¹Be 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. ¹²Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, ¹³and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, ¹⁴then 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. (Deuteronomy 8:10-14)

- What does the psalmist remember in the midst of his anguish, and why is it important?

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. ²My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? ³My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me all day long, “Where is your God?” ⁴These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng. ⁵Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God. ⁶My soul is downcast within me; therefore, I will remember you from the land of the Jordan, the heights of Hermon—from Mount Mizar. (Psalm 42:1-6)

- What makes the command God gives through Isaiah so hard to keep?

Remember this, keep it in mind, take it to heart, you rebels. ⁹Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. ¹⁰I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, “My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.” (Isaiah 46:8-10)

- What can we do to allow the Holy Spirit to exercise his ministry of reminding?

The Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you. (John 14:26)

- Why do you think Jesus felt this command and ritual (Lord’s Supper) was even necessary?!

The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁵In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.” (1Cor 11:23-25)

4. **CONNECTING**—What are creative ways that you as a person and family and we as a church might do a better job of remembering and celebrating what God has done and continually does for us?
5. **RESPONDING**—What is something specific you will do this week to strengthen your own habit or remembering?