

20/20: Honoring the Past by Preparing for the Future



Honoring the **PAST**
by Preparing for the **FUTURE**

Week Two: Honor the Past

Overview

This week, we discussed “honoring the past.” Each of us have people in our lives that have invested into us, and have helped us along our way. It may have been your family, or a specific teacher, or coach. Perhaps it was someone from our church. We know that God has always been with us, as well. As we read this week in Joshua 4, the people of Israel built a monument of stone to remember what God had done for them throughout their history. Though they built a monument to remember, they continued on into the journey that God had called them to. This is how we honor the past. We praise God for what he has done, and we move ahead, trusting him for the future.

As you begin this session, pray together and give God praise for what he’s done in your life – how he’s moved and provided for you. Ask God for clarity, direction, and for trust for the days and weeks to come.

Reading and Discussion

Use this scripture and these questions to frame your discussion as a group.

Read Joshua 4:1-24 together as a group.

1. How does this scripture speak to you personally? In what ways has God moved in your life recently that you can give him praise for?
2. In George’s sermon on Sunday, he asked you to think of the people in your life who have invested in you, and helped you get where you are today. Can you think of someone specifically who made a big difference in your life? Share that person and your story with the group, if you feel comfortable.
3. When you go through a season in which God does something amazing, and then you walk through a “dry” season, do you find that it’s easy to move from “honoring” the past to “fixated” on the past? One of the ways to move forward, like the Israelites did when crossing the river, is to focus on the mission that God called them to. What do you feel God is calling you to today, and how can you focus greater on that invitation from him?
4. In verses nineteen through twenty-three, we read that God dried up the river for the people to cross “so that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the Lord is powerful and so that you might always fear the Lord your God” (v. 24). God moves so that the world can know him. We’re invited to share our stories with God with others around us. Spend the closing minutes of this session giving God praise again for what he’s done for you, and asking God for opportunities to share those stories with those around you.