

Reflection

Honor the Past/Embrace the Future

December 30, 2018 / Dan Solofra

We regularly make an effort to _____ the people, places and events that are most important to us.

¹ When the whole nation had finished **crossing the Jordan**, the LORD said to Joshua, ² "Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, ³ and tell them **to take up twelve stones** from the middle of the Jordan, from right where the priests are standing, and carry them over with you and **put them down at the place where you stay tonight.**" Joshua 4:1-3, NIV

Joshua and the people were entering one of the most _____ times of the nation's young life.

⁴ So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe⁵ and said to them, "Go over before the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, ⁶ **to serve as a sign among you.** In the future, when your children ask you, **'What do these stones mean?'** ⁷ tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. **These stones are to be a memorial** to the people of Israel forever." Joshua 4:4-7, NIV

God wants us to _____ his heroic accounts of _____ in our lives with the next generation.

²¹ He said to the Israelites, **"In the future** when your descendants ask their parents, 'What do these stones mean?'" ²² tell them, 'Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground.'²³ For the LORD your God dried up the Jordan before you until you had

crossed over. The LORD your God did to the Jordan what he had done to the Red Sea when he dried it up before us until we had crossed over. ²⁴ **He did this 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.**" Joshua 4:21-24, NIV

God wants trust in him to be a _____ no matter what situations we face in life.

⁶ These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ **Impress them on your children. Talk about them** when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ **Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.** Deuteronomy 6:6-9, NIV

Bible Study and _____ are a legacy we leave to our children of God's greatness.

What are the Memorial Stones we have for our children?

_____.

_____.

_____.

_____.

MEMORY VERSE

²⁴ He did this 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.**" Joshua 4:24, NIV

Bottom Line: God wants us to remember the past so that we will trust him for the future. He wants to establish a pattern of trust so that we turn to him at all times.

What's your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.