

Introduction:

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We often **forget or misremember.**

- **352** times the Word remember is in the Bible
- **550** times if you count its variants
- **Repetition denotes importance...**

Define Remembering:

Webster's definition: **to bring to mind or think of again** (haphazard, casual, as it comes...)

Working definition: **A truth, principle, event, moment, or experience that I intentionally and repeatedly draw my attention to, seek to understand, and apply.**

Deuteronomy 6:6-9: These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart. Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Bind them as a sign on your hand and let them be a symbol on your forehead. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your city gates.

Luke 22:19: And he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

What we remember (intentionally, repeatedly) will begin to shape us.

We are susceptible to spiritual amnesia.

We can't seem to forget:

- How someone hurt, betrayed, and let us down.
- How they voted for the wrong person, had the wrong opinion, the wrong attitude, and the wrong perspective.
- Our failures, past mistakes, and all that can disqualify us.
- Our problems and never-ending challenges.

Psalm 78:5-11: He established a testimony in Jacob and set up a law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach to their children so that a future generation—children yet to be born—might know. They were to rise and tell their children so that they might put their confidence in God and not forget God's works, but keep his commands.

Then they would not be like their ancestors, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not loyal and whose spirit was not faithful to God.

The Ephraimite archers **turned back on the day of battle**. They did not keep **God's covenant** and refused to live by **his law**. **They forgot** what he had done, the wondrous works he had shown them.

Israel remembered **their past**, but they did not remember **God "in" their past**.

To remember "my" past **informs**:

- **What I should avoid.**
 - *Surrender: I can't trust Jesus to take me where I want to go.*
 - *Faith: It's too risky, I can't give that much, serve that way or take that next step bc*

- **Where I am vulnerable.**

- **How do I get my way, my plan, and my best life now?**

When I forget what He's done, I'll find myself asking God the question: **What have you done for me lately?**

The failure of God's people to remember God's **character** and His **works** will always be **disastrous**.

Psalm 78:12-16: He worked wonders in the sight of their ancestors in the land of Egypt, the territory of Zoan. He **split the sea and brought them across**; the water stood firm like a wall. He **led them with a cloud by day and with a fiery light throughout the night**. He split rocks in the wilderness and **gave them drink** as abundant as the depths. He brought **streams out of the stone** and made water flow down like rivers.

Remember God "in" our past: Transforms by helping me understand and apply the truth:

- **He called me to greater levels of faith and trust.**
 - **Red Sea**: He demonstrates His Power and Promise
 - **Desert**: Cloud by day/fire by night - Care, Presence and Protection
 - **Water in the Desert**: Sustenance, Provision

- **The challenges of life point me to His faithfulness, character, and goodness:**
 - Who He is -----> **defines who I am called to be.**
 - What He's done -----> **points to what He saved me from.**
 - What He's promised ---> **directs me on where I'm going.**

2 Peter 1:3-4: His divine power has given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. By these he has given us very great and precious promises, so that through them you may share in the divine nature, escaping the corruption that is in the world because of evil desire.

- **Remember to Practice Gratitude Daily:**

Psalm 78:4: We will not hide them from their children, but will tell a future generation the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, his might, and the wondrous works he has performed...

- **Psalm 103:2-5:** My soul, bless the Lord, and **do not forget all his benefits. He forgives all your iniquity; he heals all your diseases. He redeems your life from the Pit; he crowns you with faithful love and compassion.** He satisfies you with good things; your youth is renewed like the eagle.

- **Remember to share your God story:**

Psalm 78:5: 6b-7: He established a testimony in Jacob and set up a law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach to their children...They were to rise and tell their children so that they might put their confidence in God and not forget God's works, but keep his commands.

- **Testimony:** Works - what has He done.
- **Law/Word:** Who He is and His nature.

Psalm 78:38-39: Yet he was compassionate; he atoned for their iniquity and did not destroy them. He often turned his anger aside and did not unleash all his wrath. He remembered that they were only flesh, a wind that passes and does not return.

