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"A saint is not someone who is good, but someone who experiences the goodness of God."
[Brennan Manning]

ICEBREAKER

Describe a wondrous memory that you remember from your childhood (or later on in life).

BEGIN WITH PRAYER

Spend a moment praying this passage, beginning your time together in humility and gratitude!

*"I remember the days of old; I meditate on all you have done;
I reflect on the work of your hands. I spread out my hands to you;
I am like parched land before you."*
[Psalm 143:5-6]

BIG IDEA

Life's challenges may cause us to stumble, but we must always remember that God's faithfulness gives us hope and His character remains steadfast.

PASSAGE

- Psalm 78:1-16, 38-39

DISCUSSION

1. In the sermon we heard, *"What we remember (intentionally and repeatedly) will begin to shape us."* How have you been shaped by something you have remembered over the years? (in good OR bad ways)
2. Why does the psalmist begin by calling the people to listen to the teaching?
3. What responsibility is placed on the current generation according to verses 3-4?
4. When you "look back and remember", who do you recall articulating the faithfulness of God to you? What impact did that have on you?
5. How can we practically "tell the next generation" about the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord?
6. How do (or can) you point those you have influence with towards Jesus?
7. What impact does knowing God's works and laws have on your hope and trust in God?
8. In the sermon we heard, *"Israel remembered their past, but they did not remember God "in" their past."* In what ways have you been tempted to minimize God's faithfulness towards you? What kinds of

things have (i.e. practices, rhythms, relationships) helped you remember His faithfulness?

9. In what ways can the negative example of the ancestors serve as a warning for us today?

10. In what ways can the truths in this passage inspire personal spiritual growth and communal faithfulness?

STEP OF OBEDIENCE

When we forget what God's done, we'll find ourselves asking: "What have you done for me lately?" Our failure to remember His character and works will always be disastrous! Based on the Holy Spirit's prompting today, **what is a step of obedience that you can take?** Here are a few questions to consider as we intentionally and repeatedly remember God's faithfulness, character, and goodness:

- How can I *practice gratitude* daily and encourage others to be grateful?
- Who can I *thank for sharing* about God's faithfulness with me?
- Who can I *share my own stories* of God's faithfulness with?
- How can I be more intentional about *sharing my "God story"* with others? **HERE** is a tool to help you share your story! (rockbridge.cc/sharing-your-story)

PRAYER FOCUS

Remembering God's Faithfulness

- Pray that as a church we remember, faithfully, what the Lord has done in us, for us, and through us in our world, and speak that truth to others.
- Be thankful and aware that the Lord desires to build a monument to his faithfulness in our lives, that others might see His faithfulness and be drawn to Him!

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE *Optional*

Writing a psalm of remembrance can help you grow in your trust and love for God by giving you a way to fix your attention on who He has shown Himself to be in your life. By purposefully writing a brief, powerful summary of His faithfulness, you will follow in the footsteps of His people who have written songs and poems to celebrate specific ways God showed His power on their behalf.

- **[Writing a Psalm of Remembrance](http://rockbridge.cc/writing-a-psalm-of-remembrance)** or rockbridge.cc/writing-a-psalm-of-remembrance