



Discussion Guide Memorial Day Weekend LEADER GUIDE

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Hey small group leaders! Next week we will begin a NEW series called “Life Tools”. In this series we will explore practical, personal tools that make following Jesus simpler in everyday life. These aren’t rules or formulas—they’re real-life habits and insights that made a difference in a real person’s walk with Christ. Each message will offer something honest, helpful, and easy to apply. Because growing in faith doesn’t have to be complicated—it just takes the right life tools!

Thank you for shepherding a group of people to Love God, Love Others, and Live Sent!

NEED A RESOURCE, HAVE A QUESTION, OR WANT TO HAVE A CONVERSATION?
Let us know how we can help! Contact your groups director or discipleship@rockbridge.cc

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“Faith is the gaze of a soul upon a saving God.”
[A.W. Tozer]

LEADER RESOURCES || Leader Note We do our best to equip, empower, and encourage you to shepherd your group well. Access a resource by clicking on the underlined title and share them with your group!

- [Joshua Ch. 4 Commentary](#) & [5 Minute Summary](#)
 - Use the commentary and short video for background and encouragement. These would be good resources to share before you gather.
- **Rock Bridge APP**
 - Our app has launched and is a great resource and community builder!
 - [iPhone](#) & [Android](#)

ENGAGE & CONNECT || Leader Note The goal for the icebreaker is to prepare your group for the conversation ahead by connecting with one another’s hearts and building joy together.

Share one of your favorite memories from your teenage years. What is so memorable about it?

BEGIN WITH PRAYER || Leader Note Begin your time together thanking God for his presence and praying His word back to Him. Ask a few people to pray, taking a posture of humility and dependence!

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

*“Let us hold on to the confession of our hope without
wavering, since he who promised is faithful.”*
[Hebrews 0:23]

BIG IDEA || Leader Note Read this aloud so your group knows the theme of today’s reading and discussion.

What we regularly and purposefully remember and celebrate is critical to our faith!

PASSAGE & DISCUSSION || Leader Note Have people read aloud the passage as instructed. Your role is to FACILITATE, so keep your group moving along, encourage people to share, and look for opportunities to point out the grace and glory of God! Here are two reminders: 1) Every question does not have to be answered ... go where the Spirit leads! 2) Answers do not have to be read aloud ... they're for guidance!

There are a few passages to be read for the discussion today. First, have someone read aloud Joshua 4:1–7.

1. What did God command the Israelites to do after crossing the Jordan? What was its purpose? *God instructed one man from each tribe to take a stone from the Jordan and build a memorial. The purpose was so future generations would ask about it and be reminded of how God parted the waters—a physical testimony of God's faithfulness and power.*
2. How can remembering God's past faithfulness help you face your fears or uncertainties in the present? *Answers will vary: remembering shifts our focus from present problems to God's consistent character. It builds our faith and reminds us that the God who acted before is still with us now and will act again.*
3. What "stone" or spiritual marker exists in your life—a time when God clearly showed up? How often do you reflect on those moments? *Answers will vary: these may be conversion moments, deliverance from sin, answers to prayer, etc. Reflecting renews faith, gratitude, and confidence in God's continued work.*

Now have someone read aloud Joshua 4:20–24.

4. What broader purpose did the memorial stones serve beyond just Israel's memory? *The stones were to be a testimony to the world—that all the nations would know the power of the Lord and that Israel would fear the Lord always, remembering His faithfulness.*
5. How often do you share about God's faithfulness and work in your life with people around you who are not believers? How does this passage challenge you to begin doing that more regularly?

Finally, have someone read aloud 1 Corinthians 11:23–26.

6. According to Paul, what is the purpose of communion? *Communion is a memorial of Christ's sacrifice, a regular proclamation of His death until He returns. It is an act of remembrance—of Jesus' love, His provision, and our identity as redeemed by His blood.*
7. What do the Old Testament stones and the New Testament communion meal reveal about how God uses memorials? *God uses tangible symbols to anchor spiritual truths in the hearts of His people. These memorials are not just for sentimentality but for spiritual formation, identity, and mission.*
8. What is the connection between Christian community and passing on spiritual knowledge? Why can't Christian faith be fully lived in isolation? *Knowledge is tribal and communal—we learn together and shape one another. Community reinforces truth, accountability, and remembrance, helping faith be passed from one generation to the next.*
9. What might it look like for you to intentionally "build a memorial" to God's work in your life this month? *It could be writing a testimony, creating a journal entry, framing a key verse, or telling someone your story. It makes God's faithfulness visible and memorable.*

10. What are some ways we can build communal “memorials” of God’s faithfulness in our small group? *Answers will vary: writing prayer journals, keeping answered prayer walls, celebrating baptisms and anniversaries, or creating a shared gratitude list. These remind us of God’s movement over time.*

STEP OF OBEDIENCE || Leader Note *This is an opportunity for people to put into practice what the Spirit is inviting them to do and live in obedience to God for the sake of love! You can encourage your group to be accountable to one another and use these to follow up with one another throughout the week.*

Today, we were reminded that God commands us to remember—not just for sentiment, **but for strength, identity, and mission**. Whether through stones beside a river or bread and wine at a table, God gives us tangible ways to recall Him. Remembering God’s work is essential for spiritual health and passing on the faith to the next generation. **As you consider your next step, here are two questions to reflect on:** 1) What false narratives are shaping how I see myself and God right now? 2) What act of remembrance do I need to practice more intentionally?

Give your group a few moments to reflect on their answers to the questions above. Then have your group answer the question aloud. Feel free to separate into smaller groups of 3-4 for this question. The possible next steps of faith below are not for discussion, but simply a resource for your group members.

Possible Next Steps of Faith

1. Choose one specific memory of God's faithfulness and create a way to remember it—journal, artwork, testimony, or Scripture.
2. Initiate a conversation this week with a friend or family member where you share one thing God has done in your life that you want them to remember too.

PRAYER FOCUS || Leader Note *We want to commit to praying for OTHERS as a unified church who is dependent upon God for everything. Be intentional about saving at least 5-10 minutes for prayer at the end of your gathering each week to pray together. Pray for one another as well as the prompts below!*

Remembering and Celebrating What Matters Most

- Take a moment to reflect: what we choose to celebrate directs our affections. In our faith journey, intentionally remembering God’s goodness, His promises, and the finished work of Jesus is vital to staying rooted in truth and joy.
- As we pray, let’s ask God to help us be people who remember well, celebrate His faithfulness, rehearse His Word, and hold fast to the hope of the Gospel. Let’s commit to marking our days with gratitude and worship, so our faith remains strong and vibrant.