Look at What God Has Done

Change and transitions are unavoidable parts of life. We all experience seasons of transition as we grow and simply get older. Sometimes we choose to make changes in our lives and other times changes feel thrust upon us. Regardless of whether changes are welcome or unwelcome, they are often emotionally and spiritually challenging. During these seasons, studying the transition of the Israelites from slaves to wanderers to soldiers in Joshua can help us find assurance of God's presence with us in our times of change. Through the story of the Israelites, we see that God always provides a way and remains with his people. We learn the importance of sharing our testimonies and passing on the memories and stories of God's faithfulness to the next generation of believers. By saying "look at what God has done," we provide ourselves and others with the assurance of God's presence and the confidence to continue walking forward in faith.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- What transitions have you experienced in your life? What emotions did you feel during those seasons?
- How do you generally feel about change?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: Look at What God Has Done

READ Joshua 3-4

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- In segment 1, hosts Darrell Delaney and Scott Hoezee observe that Israel's crossing of the Jordan River shows us that God does not always work in the same way for all people. However, no matter how long we wait, we can know and trust that God is with us. What do you think Scott means when he says, "what is important is that we stay alive and open to God, even if he does something a little bit differently than he did in the past"? Why do you think this can be difficult for us? How does knowing the stories of Israel crossing the Red Sea with Moses and of Israel crossing the Jordan River with Joshua help?
- Reflect on how the stones from the Jordan River helped remind the Israelites of what God had done. What moments from your life or the life of your community, help remind you who God is and what he has done? How might you remember or celebrate these events like an anniversary?
- The stone memorial in Joshua represents an opportunity for the next generation of believers to ask and hear about the mercy and providence of God. As part of a community of believers, there will always be newer or younger believers and more mature, experienced believers. How might you share your testimony with the next generation of faith in your faith community? Is there someone older or further along in their faith that you might ask to share their testimony with you?

• At the end of segment 2, Scott says, "it is good to remember when we can, the big things and the small; make them part of our prayer life; make them part of our devotional life so that we do indeed do what the Israelites were told to do over and over: Remember; remember; and do not forget." What are some of the big and the small things you want to thank God for? How does giving thanks help us follow God's command to "remember and do not forget"?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

Psalm 145:4, John 5:24, Romans 6:1-11

CONCLUSION

Write the "stones" of your testimony; use the following prompts as you find them helpful:

- How has God opened the way for you?
- Read 1 Samuel 7:10-12. How was God your ebenezer (stone of help)?
- How have you felt God's presence with you?

https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/look-at-what-god-has-done

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