

Joshua 4:1-8, 20-24 - Stones in the Landscape

There are a lot of rocks in our lives. Some are beautifully polished stones, others are unfortunately placed rough impediments to the course we want to take. Stones can indicate entrances, boundaries or be an irritation in your shoe. God wants us to identify the rocks, place them in our landscape and point to them as signs of God's faithfulness and opportunities to share our faith in Him alone.

- Do you tend to live “in the past”? Or, are you always straining for the future?

“Both anticipation and remembering are important. People like me who are inclined to remember are to be affirmed but also encouraged to anticipate; people who are inclined to live in the future are to be affirmed but they also need to be encouraged to reclaim the past. For the sake of the generation entering Canaan, Joshua is full of anticipation regarding what is going to be; for the sake of coming generations, it emphasizes remembering” (John Goldingay, 2011).

- How has God intervened in your life? How can you create an enduring memorial for yourself and your family to serve as a reminder of God's faithfulness?
- Have any of God's great answers/blessings come after what seemed to be an immovable obstacle stopped you? Or, after a chronic situation is resolved?
- Mark Batterson: “The goal of the *Draw the Circle* challenge is not to pray for 40 days and stop. No, it is to keep praying for the rest of our lives!”

Next week: *Rev. Hugh Friberg, retired missionary*

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March 18, 2018

The 5th Sunday of Lent

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

Today: *Psalm 32* (What is God saying to you?)

Monday: *Matthew 11:2-19*

Tuesday: *1 Corinthians 15:1-28*

Wednesday: *Romans 1:1-7, 16-17*

Thursday: *Isaiah 25:1-9*

Friday: *Colossians 3:1-17*

Saturday: *Romans 8:31-39*

Oh God, our Father, renew our spirits and draw our hearts to You, that our work may not be to us a burden but a delight; and give us such love for You that it sweetens all our obedience.

Help us serve You with the cheerfulness and gladness of children, delighting ourselves in You and rejoicing in all that honors Your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

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