

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”
John 1:40-42a


A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.


Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a

MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK




Georgia Webb | Mexico

1. PRAISE - My partner in ministry, Pastor Jimmie Lee has gone home to be with the Lord. It is hard here, but PTL he is in heaven!
2. PRAY - The church will have a meeting tomorrow night with the purpose of beginning the process of finding a new Pastor. Pray the Lord leads us in the way we should go.
3. PRAY - We are under strict COVID rules which makes it hard for me to get groceries amongst other things.

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GROWTH
GUIDE



REFLECTING BACKWARD,
REACHING FORWARD

Handout: 12/20/20

Study: 12/27/20

Reflecting Back

The Israelites had wandered in the wilderness for forty years. Moses had died, and now Joshua was leading the people into the Promised Land. As God once again drew back the waters, the Israelites passed through the Jordan on dry land, and the Lord told Joshua to have twelve men (one from each tribe of Israel) take a stone. The stones were stacked together to create a memorial. Joshua explained to the people, God didn’t want the people of Israel or the generations to come to forget what had been accomplished in that place.

The Bible is full of commands to “remember.” But what, specifically, does God want us to remember, and why? For starters, God wants us to remember:

- how blessed we are,
- the lessons we have been taught, and
- the ways in which God has guided us.

There are lots of reasons God wants us to remember. God wants us to remember because in doing so we will:

- be less likely to forget God’s Word,
- be more thankful,
- be less afraid of the future, and
- (hopefully) be less likely to make the same mistakes twice.

In addition, there is another very important reason we should remember. In Deuteronomy 4:9, we read,

“But be on guard and watch yourselves closely so that you don’t forget the things your eyes saw and so they never leave your mind as long as you live. Teach them to your children and your grandchildren.”

While it is obviously important for us to remember for our own spiritual development, it is also important for our children’s spiritual growth.

Unfortunately, we humans have very short memories. That’s why God often commanded the Israelites to create a memorial of some kind to help them remember.

We take for granted that we will always remember. We take for granted that our children know. God doesn’t take it for granted. God reminds us to remember, for our own benefit and for the benefit of our children. The Israelite’s forgetfulness often resulted in a falling away from the presence of God, either in their own generation or in the following generation. Children who are not taught about God’s love and blessings do not learn to know God. We obviously don’t want that to happen. Remembering is such a simple thing. It’s so simple that we forget.

Source: “A Reminder To Remember” by Tricia Brown

KEY VERSE

Romans 5:3 (NKJV)

“Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance”

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Romans 5:3a; James 1:2-4; Deuteronomy 4:9

We Have Learned Joy

1. As you reflect back on 2020, what will you remember the most? How will you make sure you remember the lessons you learned this year in the future?
2. What are some things you have rejoiced in this year? What have you learned about joy?

Tuesday: Romans 5:3b; Job 23:8-12; James 1:12

We Have Learned Perseverance

3. What do today's readings tell us about perseverance?
4. What obstacles have you had to overcome this year? How did you persevere?

Wednesday: Romans 5:4a; Romans 8:28-29; Philippians 4:11-13

We Have Learned Character

5. Romans 5:4 says that perseverance produces character. What character has your perseverance produced this year?
6. Romans 8:29 says that as believers we are being conformed to the image of Jesus. What are some ways you have become more like Christ this year?

Thursday: Romans 5:4b; I Peter 1:3-6; Psalm 42:4-5

We Have Learned Hope

7. Romans 5:4 says that character produces hope in our lives. How has character produced hope in your life?
8. How hopeful are you feeling today? How do you manage to have hope in the midst of trials?
9. How can what you have gone through in 2020 make you more hopeful the rest of your life?

Friday: Romans 5:5-8; Romans 8:35-39; I John 4:9-10

We Have Learned Love

10. How have you experienced God's love in 2020?
11. How have you expressed God's love to others?
12. 2020 is ending, but we will still have various trials the rest of our days. How will what you have learned in 2020 help you deal with future trials?