

Lest We Forget

Biblical Practice

Recall, Renew, Respond

Creator Knew.....

- events dim over time, grow distant
- we must be intentional about
setting aside time
hearing and telling the story
adjusting our responses to the truth

Gave us great rhythms for this

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George Santayana

**“those who cannot remember the past are
condemned to repeat it”**

Some Biblical Instruction around this

- Deut. 4:9-10 *“Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children—*

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¹⁰ how on the day that you stood before the LORD your God at Horeb, the LORD said to me, 'Gather the people to me, that I may let them hear my words, so that they may learn to fear me all the days that they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children so.'

- note the diligently part, the passing on part

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Deut. 6:10-12 “And when the Lord your God brings you into the land that he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give you—with great and good cities that you did not build,¹¹ and houses full of all good things that you did not fill, and cisterns that you did not dig, and vineyards and olive trees that you did not plant—and when you eat and are full,¹² then take care lest you forget the Lord, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.”

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Deut. 6:20 “When your son asks you in time to come, ‘What is the meaning of the testimonies and the statutes and the rules that the LORD our God has commanded you?’²¹ then you shall say to your son,”

LEST WE FORGET

LEST WE FORGET

Lest We Forget

Joshua 4:6-7 “that this may be a sign among you. When your children ask in time to come, ‘What do those stones mean to you?’⁷ then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it passed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones shall be to the people of Israel a memorial forever.”

- markers and monuments to remember

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New Testament

2 Peter 1:12 - 'I always intent to remind you....'

2 Peter 3:1-2 - 'stirring you up by way of reminder.....that you should remember.....'

Paul is clear we are to learn from the accounts

1 Cor. 10:6 *"Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did."*

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1 Cor. 10:11-12 *“Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.”*

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WISDOM WOODS

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“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. ²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.” James 1:23-25

Lest We Forget

1. Take Time To Recall Truth

a) In our Land

- freedoms we enjoy and take for granted
- the sacrifice made to secure those
- continued service of those who stand ready
- extensive part of the world that does not have this reality

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b) In Our Faith

- ability to have relationship with God
- sacrifice made by Christ on our behalf
- freedoms we have to practice faith
- freedoms we have through Jesus
- the work of God in our lives and situations

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2. Take Time to Renew Perspective

a) In Our Land

- am I aware of and passing on the story?
- am I praying for our leaders?
- am I taking intentional time to celebrate?
- am I expressing support & appreciation to those who continue to serve and stand ready?

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b) In Our Faith

- where do my hope and confidence lie?
- consider Lamentations 3
 - vs 1, - I have seen afflictions
 - vs 2-20 – they are really bad
 - vs 21-26 *“But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.*

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“The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.”

- renew the truth, shift our perspective on life

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3. Take Time to Respond

a) In Our Country

- become a 'teller of the story'
- pass on to a generation the history of....
- attend a service, wear a poppy, participate
- thank our service members
- care for the wounded and broken
- pray for them

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b) In Our Faith

- be a teller of the gospel
- give thanks, aware and appreciating
- intentional about remembering, attending the services, participating in the holidays, etc
- be a maker of monuments and markers
- place your burdens
- accept the empowerment of Holy Spirit

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So What?

**Moment of Silence – Our Country
Praise and Celebration to God – Our Faith
Expressed**

