

SPIRITUAL WARFARE 9

Focused Living Ministries

“What do these stones mean to you?”

Joshua 4:6

*“Father God, help me **remember** Your patience so that I might forgive the jerk single mother who cut me off in traffic because she worked ten hours today and is rushing home to cook dinner, help with homework, do the laundry and spend a few precious moments with her children. Help me to **remember** Your provision so that I might not be frustrated at the distracted 19-year-old college student who couldn't make change correctly and got my order wrong because he is worried over final exams and fears he will not get his student loan next semester. Help me **remember** Your sovereign control so that I can show grace to the old couple walking annoyingly slow through the store blocking my progress as they savor the moment knowing that, based on today's biopsy report, this will be the last time that they go shopping together. O Father, how **short is my memory** of Your extreme faithfulness.” **What aspect of His character did He remind you this week? How did you let it change the way you cared for your family and others?***



(Josh 4:1-8; 20-24) On April 10, 1405 BC, exactly 40 years to the day, 2.5 million of God's people crossed the Jordan river at flood stage on dusty dry ground (Josh 3:17) to enter the land just as He promised they would (Josh 21:45; 23:14; Gen 13:13-17; 15:18-91; Heb 11:8-9, 16; Is 14:1)!



Why did God command them build a visual reminder of 12 huge stones on the bank of the Jordan? Why is this a powerful principle of war? How does it work? How would these stones help 2.5 million sinners love and care for each other during the hard times of life's battles? (Ps 103)

We each need to stack his own pile of stones in prep for war! The word **'thank'** in English comes from the same root word to **'think'**. Heartfelt and authentic **thanks** is the result of careful **thought**. To be genuinely **thankful** to God we must first be **thoughtful** of all He has so faithfully provided. In other words, it is imperative that you **THINK before you THANK** because the next generation is watching! **Why is thoughtfulness of and thankfulness for God's character absolutely vital to spiritual warfare?**

In line with the 12 stones of Joshua 4:2-4, list 12 specific ways Father God has been faithful to you and your family this year.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

(Joshua 4:6-7; 21-24; 24:14-16; Judges 2:10-14) Why was the Lord so concerned about the children? According to these passages what is a great way for you to love your family? Challenge: discuss each with your family or close friend. (Luke 17:11-19)

(Joshua 4:9-14; Duet 8; Exodus 17:3; Numbers 11:18-20) Joshua knew that God's men had short memories and would quickly forget all that He had done in and through them. Why did he challenge the men to put yet another pile of stones in the middle of the Jordan river?

TAG TEAM DISCUSSION How can remembering what God has done in the past help you face difficulties in the present or future. Describe a time when remembering God's character helped you fight a spiritual battle.

