

Sermon Series: Courage Scripture: Joshua 4 Date: September 15 & 16, 2018

Message: Drawing Courage from the Past

—[LET'S START]—

Last week Pastor Dale revealed to us the uncommon courage in three women (Miryam, Mary and Ruby Bridges). Uncommon courage is not uncommon when you are trusting God and sharing the hope of the Gospel with others. Give examples of how God used you as a source of hope during this past week.

-[LET'S TALK]-

- 1. Failing is not considered to be a good thing, in most cases. To fail forward is the exception. Failure is seen to have value when we learn from our mistakes and are able to move through them to success. Have you ever learned an important lesson because of a mistake you made?
- 2. Have one person read aloud Joshua 1:6-9 to the group. God instructed the people of Israel to take over the Promised Land. The power of His presence is seen in their amazing crossing of the Jordan River. God tells Joshua to have one man from each tribe to select a stone to build a memorial at that place so His people would remember God's powerful assistance. The rocks the twelve men pulled from the river bottom were to help the people to remember. What are some "rocks" that we have to help us remember what God has done for us?
- 3. Everyone read silently Deuteronomy 8:6-20. What caused Israel's failure?

We are just in the middle of September and 9/11 has passed. How is your memory of 9.11.01? The feelings? The intensity of the moment? How has your memory of that day changed over the years? For some it is just an event that has created hassles for them every time they want to fly somewhere. How does this compare to the passage in Deuteronomy?

-[LET'S ACT]-

What rocks do you have that help you remember what God has done for you? One idea is to purchase a small cross to carry in your pocket/purse. Every time you put your hands in your pocket and feel it or see it in your purse, remember God's provision for your salvation in the past, and rely on His presence with you now.

-[SERMON REVIEW]-

- God-given successes can turn into spiritual liabilities.
- God instructs Joshua to take over the Promised Land.
- God miraculously leads the people across the Jordan River and has one man from each of the twelve tribes pick up a rock from the middle of the river bed to build a memorial of the event. Remembering what God did is important.
- Rocks to help you remember God:
 - o The Word of God.
 - Your church campus.
 - Your generous giving.
 - o Your LifeGroup.

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