



## “Remembrance”

### 1. READ

**Scripture: Joshua 4: 4-7 New King James Version (NKJV)**

Then Joshua called the twelve men whom he had appointed from the children of Israel, one man from every tribe; 5 and Joshua said to them: “Cross over before the ark of the Lord your God into the midst of the Jordan, and each one of you take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel, 6 that this may be a sign among you when your children ask in time to come, saying, ‘What do these stones mean to you?’ 7 Then you shall answer them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord; when it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. And these stones shall be for a memorial to the children of Israel forever.”





**Suggested Chapters to Study This Week: Joshua Chapter 3 & 4**

## 2. REFLECT

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This week Pastor Watley shares from God’s Word and begins our 4th quarter of our Kingdom Builders Campaign. This week’s “Water Way” lesson comes from the Book of Joshua and the 4th Chapter, Pastor’s title is “Remembrance.” Pastor was recently in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to preach for the 100th anniversary of the Tulsa race massacre. Pastor preached at Vernon AME Church in Tulsa, which was the only church to survive the carnage. As he visited the church, he was able to see the area in the basement where the survivors stayed until it was safe to come out. The Pastor of Vernon AME Church shared with Pastor “The Book of Remembrance.”

This book listed the names of people who, after the massacre, donated and gave their funds to help the church rebuild. This is important because it was where the children of Israel were in our scripture and where we are as Kingdom Fellowship. This book of Remembrance people gave to see God’s building come back to life despite how they still needed to rebuild their lives.



The faith of those from Vernon AME Church made Pastor think about and ask what will be the legacy of our building 100 years from now? Pastor shared why we're building with these points:

- We are building to lift high the blood-stained banner of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- We are building so that men and women, boys and girls will have a place to ask what must I do to be saved.
- We are building a platform from which the gospel, the good news about Jesus can be broadcast all around the world.
- We are building a base of ministry operations to bless the local and global communities alike.
- But we are not investing simply so that our children will have a place to play and learn or even for us to sing and shout.
- We are building, and building in such a way so that 100 years from now – there will still be a place and a people that will Gather, Grow, Give and Go.
- We are building, and building in such a way that **100 years from now 500 years from now** – this church will still be making kingdom disciples who make a kingdom difference.

Pastor Shared that this is where the Children of Israel were asking themselves why we are building or moving but what these stones mean. God uses the rocks for them to remember what God has done. Pastor mentions what happened in Joshua Chapter 3 when they got through the sea by carrying the arch. After they walk through the sea, God tells them to have each tribe select one person to carry a stone from the sea onto the dry ground. Pastor shares what these stones meant:

- **The Stones stood out** – they were different on sight and touch because of where they have been.
- **The stones were shared one per tribe** – they shared the stones so that each tribe or family unit could tell the children about what the Lord has done.
- **The stones were a symbol of survival** – they reminded the children of Israel of what God has brought them through and how they didn't perish in it.

There was an importance to the stones and there is an importance to why we're building. Pastor shares that our building is being built with Architectural evangelism so that others get to know Christ and see Him differently through the building. It is also being built with Architectural preservation in mind. So those students and those younger can have a place where they are trained and developed to be Kingdom Disciples. It is our role to be like the Children of Israel in this phase and like those faithful members of Vernon AME Church to stand beyond ourselves and do something that will last for generations beyond us in remembrance.





## 1. RESPOND

### **Introspective Questions**

- ï What have you done in remembrance of what God has done in your life?
- ï Who has benefited from your faith in Christ this year?

### **Discussion Questions**

- ï What do you think the grandchildren of those faithful Vernon AME members have to say today about their elders who were part of rebuilding the Church?
- ï What items do you have or can you create to help you and your family member all of the great things God has done ?