

Activity: Remember



**FAMILY TIME
TRAINING**

Teaching Goal: Remember what God has done in your life.

Scripture: Joshua 3:15-16 Now the Jordan is at flood stage all during harvest. Yet as soon as the priests who carried the ark reached the Jordan and their feet touched the water's edge, the water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam...while the water flowing down to the {Dead Sea} was completely cut off.

Joshua 4:1-7 When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the Lord said to Joshua, "Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan..." {Joshua said,} "Each of you is to take up a stone...to serve as a sign among you. In the future when your children ask you, 'What do these stones mean?' tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off...These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever."

2 Kings 2:8 Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them [Elijah and Elisha] crossed over on dry ground.

2 Kings 2:14 Then he {Elisha} took the cloak that had fallen from him and struck the water with it...When he struck the water, it divided to the right and to the left, and he crossed over.

Materials: 12 items from your home (see activity)

I. Lesson and Discussion

✓ Words written in **bold** are when the leader is speaking. Feel free to use your own words.

A. Did you know that there are four times in the Old Testament of the Bible when God divides the water so the Israelites or a prophet could walk through on dry land? Most people know about the time when Moses held up his walking stick and God parted the Red Sea so that the Israelites could escape the Egyptians. (Exodus 14) Not as many people know that God parted the waters of the Jordan River when Joshua crossed into Canaan, the Promised Land. Invite a volunteer to read Joshua 3:15-16. Or, when the Jordan River divided for Elijah and Elisha and they crossed on dry ground. Invite a volunteer to read 2 Kings 2:8 and 2 Kings 2:14.

After God divided the Jordan River for Joshua and the Israelites, God instructed them to take 12 stones and build a memorial. The purpose of the memorial was to remind them and to remind future generations of what God had done.

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Many times in the Old Testament people built memorials made of stone to remember something special God did for them. (Optional. Invite volunteers to read: Genesis 28:18; Genesis 35:14; Exodus 24:4; Joshua 24:25)

B. ACTIVITY: Divide the 12 by the number of participants in this activity. You may need to give one or two people an extra item. **Joshua used rocks to make his memorial. We are going to do something a little different. Instead of rocks to build our memorial, I want us to use toys, jewelry, journals...items that remind us of things God has done in our lives. Each person has 10 minutes to collect {4, 3, 2—a total of 12 from everyone} personal items that remind you of God or something God has done for you.** Adults may want to assist younger children in picking out items.

Each person brings their items back to the table. Ask the following questions: **Why did you choose this item? How does it remind you of God or what he has done for you?**

C. OPTION: Make a list of the items, the person who selected them and why they were selected. Take a picture of the 12 items piled together and keep the picture with the list. Keep in a safe place to share with future children and grandchildren.

II. Close in Prayer

III. Pass It On. Make an extra copy of this lesson and *pass it on* to another family.