

In Remembrance (Thanksgiving)
Luke 22:19; Deuteronomy 15:15

1. The word “Remember” is mentioned more than 250 times in the Bible.
 - a. A Mind is a terrible thing to waste – Dad’s Poem
 - b. A look at the science of the human brain reveals the importance God has placed on memory.
2. Deuteronomy 15:15 – *“You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God redeemed you; therefore I command you this thing today.”*
 - a. Many times Moses had to remind the people about the slavery and harsh realities of their past
 - b. David remembered and reminded about “battles won” with God’s help
 - c. Isaiah said it was his “Duty” to “call people to remembrance”
3. Jesus made memory a priority
 - a. When the woman was caught in adultery he called to memory the sins of her accusers
 - b. In one sermon in Luke 17 Jesus tells the hearers to “remember Lot’s wife.”
 - c. Along the Emmaus road after resurrection Jesus called to memory the story from Moses and the Prophets to himself. And their hearts burned within them at the memory.
 - d. Most famously, Luke 22:19 as Jesus prepared for crucifixion he said all generations should remember his death until he comes again ... “this do, in remembrance of me.”
4. God Himself has a “book of remembrance”
 - a. Malachi 3:16 “a book of remembrance was written before Him...”
 - b. Psalm 56:8 “You number my wanderings; put my tears into Your bottle; are they not in Your book.”
 - c. Revelation 20:12 “And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and the books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.
 - i. (Not a ‘works’ salvation – we are saved by grace through faith and that not of works...”
 - ii. But works ‘worthy of repentance’ as in “going back to do the first works over”
 - d. God will remember grace, but our sin will be in the sea of His forgetfulness!
5. There is Power in remembering
 - a. Cognitive psychology says - Sometimes it is necessary to look backward in order to move forward
 - i. This year we have looked back over the past 40 years of the history of this congregation
 - b. We look back with a purpose
 - i. Not in defeated slavery to past – not to beat up on yourself.
 - ii. “The Past is Prologue”
 - c. We look back to remember past victories
 - i. Glorious moments when our cup runs over
 - ii. Days when promises were made and kept
 - d. Remembrance helps our faith grow stronger
6. 2 Peter 1:13 “... I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you.”
 - a. Thanksgiving is a time of remembrance
 - b. Take time today, this week, to remember...
 - i. What God has done in your life and how He has blessed you
 - ii. Other blessings of family, friends, church...

c. Give Thanks!