

The Need to Remember

Why do people get together for family reunions, high school reunions or church homecomings?

Why do old friends like to reminisce about the past?

Why do we build memorials and have holidays like Memorial Day, Veterans Day and the Fourth of July?

Why do we throw parties to celebrate the day people were born?

Why do we take pictures?

An answer to all these questions is that we don't want to forget. And when dementia or Alzheimer's disease robs a person of memory, the result is devastating to loved ones.

God created us with the ability to remember. While there are some sins and sad stories that we're better off forgetting, when it comes to God's work in our lives, we should strive to remember.

Repeatedly, the Bible encourages us to call to mind God's past faithfulness to us and to others. Wise people have learned the value of remembering.

Scripture constantly calls us to remember because we tend to forget. Bringing to mind God's mercy and faithfulness strengthens our faith and bolsters our hope. Recalling how God has been faithful to His promises in the past enables us to walk confidently into the future.

Reflecting on His kindness to us makes it easier for us to be kind to other people. Recognizing His forgiveness enables us to forgive those who have wronged us. And remembering how Jesus walked with others when He walked on this earth helps us to know that He walks with us through our difficulties today.

As we recall God's blessings toward us – and they are legion – we surely must be overcome with gratitude for His goodness.

My soul, praise the Lord, and do not forget all His benefits (Psalm 103:2).

– Beecher Hunter

