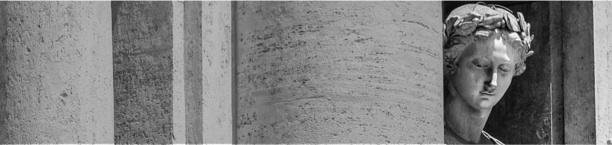
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Welcome to Summer 2014! … Although the summer solstice is not for another month.  Memorial Weekend is the summer kickoff offering "blockbuster" opportunities for all! Car dealers, stores, recreational services, and movie releases are poised for the summer push. The receipts from this weekend will be a significant indicator of consumer confidence. But this has not always been the case.

Memorial Day was originally called "Decoration Day" to describe the practice of decorating graves with flowers. The inconceivable numbers of burials caused by the Civil War (more than 600,000) created a need for remembrance and healing across the nation. Following the Lincoln assassination, formal movements began to set aside a day to remember. The first Decoration Day was May 30, 1868. The date was chosen because it was the optimal date for flowers to bloom since they would be in high demand for the holiday. Decoration Day was formally renamed Memorial Day in 1967 and moved to the last Monday in May in 1971.

Why this little history lesson? Because "remember" is one of the most important, and skipped over, words in Scripture. “Remember,” discloses God’s desire to have a relationship with us. He remembers, therefore, He contends for an authentic relationship with us so the benefits of His presence may make a tangible impact on our daily lives. God, for our part, expects us to remember Him. Therefore we are called to live a life whose thoughts, words, and deeds indicate that we are joyfully and gratefully cognizant of the relationship we share together. God expects our fidelity as husbands and wives expect their beloved to live in a manner that actively honors and treasures their marriage. Just as a marriage is jeopardized the moment its partners begin to “forget” one another, so too our relationship with God is undermined when we cease to live like we remember Him. Lives ruined by God remember Him. This week let's remember how the kindness and mercy of God has ruined our lives.

LifeGroup

Resource Guide

# for the week of 18 May: The Truth That Ruins Us

Enjoy your LifeGroup! Mark

Remember…

*“Give heed to yourself and keep your soul diligently,*

*so that you do not forget the things which your eyes have seen and they do not depart from your heart all the days of your life… Remember the day you stood before the Lord your God.”*

*“Remember the days of old, Consider the years of all generations. Ask your father, and he will inform you, Your elders, and they will tell you.*

*– Deuteronomy 4.9-10; 32.7*

*Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.*

*– A W Tozer*

What is one of your most significant memories?

Remember is one of the most important, and also one of the most skipped over, words in Scripture. It occurs in its Hebrew and Greek forms over 250 times to clearly reveal:

# Reflecting on Deuteronomy 6.1-25

* the immediacy and the intensity of God’s love for us;
* the passionate exercise of His sovereign rule on our behalf;
* the complete expression of His unconditional grace;
* the attentiveness of His shepherding care and provision; and
* the vindication of His justice over evil and sin.

 “Remember” is also used to exhort and encourage God’s people

* to recognize with reverence and awe His might, His rule, and His steadfast love;
* to recall His saving work on our behalf;
* to realize our obligation to obey His commands;
* to reflect daily on the reality of God’s presence and our faithfulness to Him; and
* to repent when our thoughts, words, and deeds tragically reflect that we have “forgotten” Him.

Getting to know one another better ...

God tells us that He will remember us always and He calls us to do likewise.

Remember these things, O Jacob,

And Israel, for you are My servant;

I have formed you, you are My servant,

O Israel, you will not be forgotten by Me.

(Isaiah 44.21)

And in that day you will say,

“Give thanks to the LORD, call on His name.

Make known His deeds among the peoples;

Make them remember that His name is exalted.”

(Isaiah 12.4)

While Deuteronomy does not employ the word, "remember" it is implicit in the words used-- do, keep, listen, teach, be in your heart, bind them, write them, talk about them, do not forget, fear only God, worship, and swear by His Name. This is the vocabulary of a people who remember!

Deuteronomy 6 implores Israel to remember and recite God's ruinous intervention. Why?

Deuteronomy 6.4-9 are among the most significant verses for Jewish people. They are recited in every worship gathering and on every holiday. What is it about these verses that make it so significant?

Most of us can quote Deuteronomy 6.5, but what does it really mean to you. Write a paraphrase of this verse that expresses your understanding.

Deuteronomy  6.20 assumes that there will come a day when children will want to know why we are different. Are we? Do we really want to be different -- to "stick out?" For those of us, who were raised "in the church" were you raised to be different? For those of us with children, do we aspire for them to "stick out" because of our faith?

What is the testimony, statutes, and judgments that God wants us to pass down as Christians?

What do we learn about the character and desires of God from this passage?

What do we learn about ourselves in this passage?

How can our LifeGroup create an environment where we remember and tell the story of God's ruinous faithfulness in our midst?

How can our LifeGroup encourage us to tell our story so that the testimony might continue across generations?

My prayer requests (think of what you want to share in advance)

# Praying for my group...

# Highlighting...

**Sunday June 15th is Graduation Sunday**

We honor our graduates in the service. If you or a student in your house is graduating, please let us know by contacting the office at 858-565-4808.

**Interested in being baptized?**

We will be doing baptisms on Sunday, June 15th, at the end of the service in the courtyard. If you would like to be baptized, please contact the office at 858-565-4808.

**Don’t forget to check out the summer camp opportunities for kids and youth at** [**www.faithsandiego.org/camps**](http://www.faithsandiego.org/camps) **AND** consider teaching kids this summer either at Weird Animals or on Sundays. We will work with your summer plans - you can serve weekly or monthly!

# Upcoming...

**Living Your Strengths- Saturday May 31 9am-12 noon** in the Children’s Center

**Stepping Out: a HER event - Friday June 6 6:30 pm** in the Fellowship Center

**Inspired Hands- Sat. June 7 9am-2pm** in the Fellowship Center

**Graduation Sunday- June 15** is a Family Service. We are celebrating all graduates!

**Weird Animals Kid’s Day Camp** Monday - Friday, June 16-20   
9am-12pm ages 4-6th grade

**All Church BBQ-Sunday, June 22** after Worship