

Remembering Past Sins

It's important to remember, right? Anniversaries. Birthdays. Significant life events. Past sin. Past sin?!! Yes, past sin! We need to remember this too. As we will see in Deuteronomy 9, Moses tells the people on the border of the Promised Land, "Remember, and do not forget" your sins in the wilderness. He had a very important and specific reason why he wanted them to remember their sins. He didn't want them to walk in shame and self-condemnation; he wanted them to remember their past sin in a way that would help them. He wanted them to remember their sin in a God-centered way.

Opening Discussion: As you were growing up, when did you first begin to have an understand that you were sinful?

Read Deuteronomy 9

1. What are your initial reactions from reading this chapter?
2. What does Moses say about why Israel is being brought into the land (vv. 1-6)?
3. What examples of Israel's stubbornness and rebellion does Moses present (vv. 7-24)?
4. Why do you think this discussion of Israel's past sin is important now as the nation prepares to enter the land?
5. How would the grace and mercy of God be exalted in and through Israel if she would remember her past sin in a God-centered way?

6. What do you think it means to remember your past and present sin in a God-centered way? What does this look like? And how might this be helpful to you?
7. Read Luke 7:40-50. The woman remembered her sin in a God-centered way; the Pharisee did not. What was the fruit of the Pharisee's not remembering? What was the fruit of the woman's remembering?
8. Right now, do you connect more to the woman's experience or the Pharisee's? Why?

Steve said:

If you are more like the Pharisee than the woman who washed Jesus' feet with her hair, I would suggest that you find a time to get alone with God, fall on your face and repent. Apologize to God for not remembering your sins (past and present) and for not acknowledging God's grace. Ask God to show you just how much you've been forgiven. Ask God to show you just how much you should love in response.

9. Do you think or feel that you have a need right now to get alone with God to do some remembering? Why?