Joshua 4:17-5:12 Discussion Questions

This week's sermon had three sections, each with reflection questions. The discussion for this week has been designed around those questions, as a way to process them with the group.

I. Remembering God's Faithfulness (Josh 4:17-24)

This portion of text recounts how God brought the new generation of Israelites into the Promised Land by parting the Jordan River. As they crossed the riverbed, God instructed them to take 12 stones and set it up as monument on the shore in order to remind them of what He had done for them.

- 1. In your life, what have been those defining moments of God's faithfulness that you can look back upon when you need to be reminded of who God is?
- 2. Are there any "monuments" in your life that you have set up in order to help you remember what God has done for you? If not, what are some ways that you can help yourself be more mindful of God's faithfulness to you?
- 3. One of the purposes of monuments was to serve as a conversation piece so that those who saw what God did can tell others who have not seen it about what happened, especially younger generations.
 - a. How can we be more intentional about creating an environment that naturally gives rise to opportunities to share God's past faithfulness with our children or those who are younger in the faith?
- II. Commitment to Future Faithfulness to God (Josh 5:1-9)

This new generation had yet to fulfill their commitment to God by being circumcised, and so before they take the next step they obey. As is always the case, commitment takes sacrifice and, in this case, a willingness to be vulnerable and trust in God's care.

1. What deeper level of commitment is the Lord currently calling you into? What tangible next step can you take as a response of obedience to this calling of commitment?

- 2. What kind of sacrifice would this require of you? In what ways would it require you to trust in God's care?
- III. Discover What God has for you in this New Season (Josh 5:10-12)

This passage marks a transition in how God would provide for His people. They went from eating manna and quail in the wilderness to eating the fruit of the Promised Land. God was still proving his faithfulness and power by providing, but it looked different. Along with this came a new calling. Now they were to be part of the establishment of God's rule in part of the world that was full of spiritual darkness.

- 1. What dreams are being stirred in you by God's Spirit?
- 2. What are you asking the Lord to accomplish through you?