

Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far has the Lord helped us."

Psalm 78:1-4: "O my people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. ²I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter hidden things, things from of old— ³what we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us. ⁴We will not hide them from their children; **we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done.**"

KEY QUESTION: *What memorial stones can you pile high for your kids to see?*

- _____ Stories (*The Past*).
- _____ Stories (*How you became a Christian – Your Past*).
- _____ Stories (*How God is at work in your life today and what He is doing in the world and those around you*).

2. Pass on God's _____.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9: "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵ Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶ **These commandments** that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. **Impress them on your children. Talk about them** when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸ **Tie them** as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹ **Write them** on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."

Psalm 78:5-8: "He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, **which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children,** ⁶ **so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children.** ⁷ **Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands.** ⁸ They would not be like their forefathers—a stubborn and rebellious generation, whose hearts were not loyal to God, whose spirits were not faithful to him."

3. Pass on the Way of _____ for Every Area of _____.

Proverbs 1:1-6: "***The proverbs of Solomon son of David***, king of Israel: **for** attaining wisdom and discipline; **for** understanding words of insight; ³ **for** acquiring a disciplined and prudent life, doing what is right and just and fair;

⁴ **for** giving prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the young—⁵ let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance—⁶ for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise."

KEY QUESTION: *What did Solomon pass on to his son?*

- *He taught him lessons past down from _____ (Proverbs 4:1-9).*

Proverbs 4:1-9: "**Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction;** pay attention and gain understanding. ² I give you sound learning, so do not forsake my teaching. ³ **When I was a boy in my father's house, still tender, and an only child of my mother,** ⁴ **he taught me and said,** "Lay hold of my words with all your heart; keep my commands and you will live. ⁵ Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or swerve from them. ⁶ Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you. ⁷ Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding. ⁸ Esteem her, and she will exalt you; embrace her, and she will honor you. ⁹ She will set a garland of grace on your head and present you with a crown of splendor."

- He taught him to discern the difference between the woman of _____ & the woman of _____ (Prov. 1:20-33; 8-9).
- He taught him lessons he learned from his own _____ (Proverbs.5-7; 1 Kings 11:1-6; Deuteronomy 7:1-5).
- He taught him lessons he learned from carefully _____ (Ecclesiastes 2:1-11; Proverbs – subject matter).

Ecclesiastes 2:1-11: "I thought in my heart, "Come now, **I will test you with pleasure** to find out what is good." But that also proved to be meaningless. ² "Laughter," I said, "is foolish. And what does pleasure accomplish?" ³ **I tried cheering myself with wine, and embracing folly—**my mind still guiding me with wisdom. I wanted to see what was worthwhile for men to do under heaven during the few days of their lives. ⁴ **I undertook great projects: I built houses for myself and planted vineyards.** ⁵ **I made gardens and parks and planted all kinds of fruit trees in them.** ⁶ **I made reservoirs to water groves of flourishing trees.** ⁷ **I bought male and female slaves and had other slaves who were born in my house. I also owned more herds and flocks than anyone in Jerusalem before me.** ⁸ **I amassed silver and gold for myself, and the treasure of kings and provinces. I acquired men and women singers, and a harem as well—the delights of the heart of man.** ⁹ **I became greater by far than anyone in Jerusalem before me.** In all this my wisdom stayed

with me. ¹⁰*I denied myself nothing my eyes desired; I refused my heart no pleasure.* My heart took delight in all my work, and this was the reward for all my labor. ¹¹*Yet when I surveyed all that my hands had done and what I had toiled to achieve, everything was meaningless, a chasing after the wind; nothing was gained under the sun.*"

KEY QUESTION: *What was Solomon's conclusion after carefully examining life?*

Ecclesiastes 12:1-14: "Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, 'I find no pleasure in them'— ²**before** the sun and the light and the moon and the stars grow dark, and the clouds return after the rain; ³**when** the keepers of the house tremble, and the strong men stoop, **when** the grinders cease because they are few, and those looking through the windows grow dim; ⁴**when** the doors to the street are closed and the sound of grinding fades; **when** men rise up at the sound of birds, but all their songs grow faint; ⁵**when** men are afraid of heights and of dangers in the streets; **when** the almond tree blossoms and the grasshopper drags himself along and desire no longer is stirred. **Then** man goes to his eternal home and mourners go about the streets. ⁶**Remember him—before** the silver cord is severed, or the golden bowl is broken; **before** the pitcher is shattered at the spring, or the wheel broken at the well, ⁷**and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.**"⁸"Meaningless! Meaningless!" says the Teacher. Everything is meaningless!"⁹Not only was the Teacher wise, but also he imparted knowledge to the people. He pondered and searched out and set in order many proverbs.¹⁰ The Teacher searched to find just the right words, and what he wrote was upright and true.¹¹ The words of the wise are like goads, their collected sayings like firmly embedded nails—given by one Shepherd.¹² Be warned, **my son**, of anything in addition to them. Of making many books there is no end, and much study wears the body.¹³**Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.**¹⁴*For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.*"

Final Thoughts

Galatians 6:9: "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

1 Corinthians 15:58: "Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

Today's Message: "Pass It On!" Sunday June 21, 2009 – Fathers Day Pastor Cory Anderson / SMC

Introduction:

1. Pass on _____ of God's _____ Intervention.

Joshua 4:1-6, 19-24: "When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the Lord said to Joshua, ² "Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, ³ and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan from right where the priests stood and to carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight." ⁴ So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe, ⁵ and said to them, "Go over before the ark of the Lord your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, ⁶ to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, 'What do these stones mean?' ⁷ tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. **These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever.**"¹⁹ On the tenth day of the first month the people went up from the Jordan and camped at Gilgal on the eastern border of Jericho. ²⁰ And Joshua set up at Gilgal the twelve stones they had taken out of the Jordan. ²¹ He said to the Israelites, "In the future when your descendants ask their fathers, 'What do these stones mean?'" ²² tell them, 'Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground.'" ²³ For the Lord your God dried up the Jordan before you until you had crossed over. The Lord your God did to the Jordan just what he had done to the Red Sea when he dried it up before us until we had crossed over." ²⁴ He did this so that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the Lord is powerful and so that you might always fear the Lord your God."

1 Samuel 7:1-17: "When the Philistines heard that Israel had assembled at Mizpah, the rulers of the Philistines came up to attack them. And when the Israelites heard of it, they were afraid because of the Philistines. ⁸ They said to Samuel, "Do not stop crying out to the Lord our God for us, that he may rescue us from the hand of the Philistines." ⁹ Then Samuel took a suckling lamb and offered it up as a whole burnt offering to the Lord. He cried out to the Lord on Israel's behalf, and the Lord answered him. ¹⁰ While Samuel was sacrificing the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to engage Israel in battle. But that day the Lord thundered with loud thunder against the Philistines and threw them into such a panic that they were routed before the Israelites."¹¹ The men of Israel rushed out of Mizpah and pursued the Philistines, slaughtering them along the way to a point below Beth Car. ¹²