

difficulties you experienced? Write your thoughts here and praise God for deliverance and the strength you've gained through the milestones of your life that have challenged you.

Thursday, November 7

Read I Peter 2:1-7. Consider today the greatest milestone that God has given humanity – Jesus the Christ. Jesus is the cornerstone – the stone that builders depend on to hold up their entire structure. God, in our scripture, is referred to as our rock and our redeemer. Jesus, as the cornerstone, reflects that foundation upon which we base our faith.

Think about your relationship with God through Jesus Christ. How is Jesus, as a person and as an event representing your salvation and wholeness, a milestone in your life? Is Jesus the cornerstone of your life? Does your life “hold together” because Jesus is in your life? Meditate upon these questions and give thanks for the great gift of Jesus Christ.

Friday, November 8

Read Deuteronomy 26:1-11 and I Peter 2:1-7. During the message on Sunday, you were challenged to remember a milestone in your life and to commemorate that milestone physically with the stone you received Sunday. Have you followed up on any thoughts and plans you have for that stone? Did you give the stone away or place it in a significant spot? Do you have plans for that stone that will allow you to remember a certain milestone in your life and now move on?

Decide today – if you haven't already what you will do with that stone. Give it away, place it in a particular location or simply keep it as a reminder of a milestone in your life. Then pray that God will deliver you from pain, suffering – anything that is holding you back from life's journey and other milestones that await you.

Message Notes – November 3, 2024

*Milestones of Life **

- I. The tradition of creating piles of rocks is _____ and world-wide.
 - A. They have different significances; from the very _____ marking of a trail above tree line or signifying the peak of a mountain to the marking of a gravesite or another significant event in the life of an individual or _____.
 - B. Biblically, piles of stones have signified _____ between people – such as Joshua and Laban as well as certain _____ received in certain places.
- II. In the most literal sense of the word, milestones are stone markers along a road or path that marks your _____ and offers direction.
 - A. Some milestones are literally just that, marking each _____ along a route.
 - B. Other milestones stand at a _____ and tell you how many miles you are from various cities or other routes.
 - C. We use the word “milestone” to commemorate _____ events in our life journeys or the lives of our families or communities.
 - D. That's the genius of the code laid out in Deuteronomy; it managed to combine communal _____ with individual _____.
 1. What God had done for Israel was the - _____ of an entire people, a community that was to be joined in faith.
 2. But in order to keep alive and in a good and proper relationship with God as individuals and a nation, each individual Jewish family had to

*Deuteronomy 26:1-11 and I Peter 2:1-7

relive, re-experience and _____ God's great redemptive acts for themselves.

- III. We must _____ two things about milestones, friends.
- A. First, milestones are not always focused on accomplishments and _____.
 - B. Second, milestones make the statement, “_____ was there!”
- IV. I don't know what the bombed-out areas of your life are. I don't know what is keeping you from being all that _____ wants you to be.
- A. I do know that, unless we open our wounds and look at them, we are blocking the _____ from working in us and preventing God from getting hold of us in life-transforming ways.
 - B. Whatever milestone you've remembered, recognize and embrace it as a part of your _____ history.
 - C. Let that stone you are holding remind you – that _____ is with your always. You are not _____. Not when you experience any loss in your life, and not now.

Daily Meditations and Study Guide

The following is a daily meditation and study guide meant to enhance your understanding of the message and grow as a Christian.

It is offered for your personal reflection or to share with others.

Monday, November 4

Read Deuteronomy 26:1-11 and I Peter 2:1-7. The message was about milestones – those events and people in our lives that have significantly shaped our lives. Milestones offer us the opportunity to remember and meditate on the meaning of our lives in view of the milestones we've encountered. They not only mark the people and events along our life's journey – they can also offer direction and purpose for our lives.

What are the milestones of your life? What events and who has shaped your life? Meditate upon these questions, write your thoughts here and pray that God will begin to open you to the future possibilities as a result of your past encounters.

Tuesday, November 5

Read Deuteronomy 26:1-11 and all of chapter four in Joshua. Milestones are often wonderful celebrations in our lives. Look over the thoughts you jotted down yesterday. Focus today on the great celebrative milestones of your life. How have you been inspired by these events? What feelings and thoughts well up within you when you consider the great celebrations of your life?

Write your thoughts here and pray a prayer of celebration and thanksgiving for the many blessings and celebrations you've experienced in your life.

Wednesday, November 6

Read Deuteronomy 26:1-11 and I Peter 2:1-7. Read these passages carefully. Although they celebrate certain victory and accomplishment, those victories were not won without hardship and sacrifice. The Israelites suffered many generations as slaves in Egypt before being delivered out of captivity. Jesus, the cornerstone was rejected. The good news is that even hardship and suffering help to shape our lives in ways that create strength and endurance.

Once again, look over your list from Monday. Which milestones represent hardship or suffering in your life? How did these events and the people involved help to shape your life? How did they reveal strength and character in your response and reaction to the