

HOMECELL NOTES

PS AT BOSHOFF

MEMORIES OR MEMORIALS

4 September 2024

WELCOME

Welcome all members who are joining the Homecell.

WORSHIP

Prepare Praise and Worship for the Homecell gathering (1 Praise & 1 Worship song)

WORD

QUESTION 1: What are some of your most fond memories growing up as a child?

QUESTION 2: Can you remember the day/moment you committed your life to God? How did your life change because of this event?

QUESTION 3: How do memories – good or bad – influence our lives?

Are we controlled by our negative memories or by our positive memorials? If you live in a place of negative memory, you will always live in a prison.

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Ask a cell member to read Psalm 145:4

QUESTION 4: David, in this song of God's majesty and love, is clear about how we should deal with the memories of God's goodness. How should we respond to these memories?

Answer: We should be very verbal about these memories. We should share them with the next generation. Even in the difficult, painful seasons in your life, focus on God's goodness and build positive memorials.

Ask a cell member to read Joshua 4:4-7

QUESTION 5: Why do you think God instructed the Israelites to build a memorial?

Answer: This memorial was to serve as a visible reminder of what God did. These reminders/memories keep us strong and are memorials of God's goodness, mercy and grace in our lives. It is also these memorials we talk about and hand on to our children.

Ask a cell member to read 2 Samuel 12:1-24

QUESTION 6: This, by far, was the lowest point in David's life. There are several lessons we can learn from David in how he dealt with this situation in his life. What do you think was the pivotal decision that helped David to continue with the life God called him to live?

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2 Samuel 12:20-23 New King James Version

²⁰ So David arose from the ground, washed and anointed himself, and changed his clothes; and he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped. Then he went to his own house; and when he requested, they set food before him, and he ate. ²¹ Then his servants said to him, "What is this that you have done? You fasted and wept for the child while he was alive, but when the child died, you arose and ate food." ²² And he said, "While the child was alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, 'Who can tell whether the Lord will be gracious to me, that the child may live?' ²³ But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me."

Answer: David had to put the memory of this whole ordeal behind him. He could easily allow this situation to stop him in his tracks. But he chose not to allow the tough season in his life to become the defining moment of his life!

The memories we don't want are those who keep us in prison! We need to stop nursing, rehearsing and cursing all our setbacks and disappointments. They will keep us in prison as well as from our future.

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QUESTION 7: What would you say are the things that keep people imprisoned?

Answer: Memories of guilt, shame, hurt, rejection, failure, regret, disappointment, remorse, betrayal, offence etc.

Ask a few cell members to read Isaiah 43:18-19 & 2 Samuel 12:24

QUESTION 8: What can we learn from these two scriptures? How does this apply to us?

Answer: God's plan for our life will always outdo our mistakes and failures. God restored David by giving him a son. God's restoration was so significant that even up until today Solomon is known as the wisest man who ever lived... what a way to be restored! God is challenging us to stop focusing on the former things! He wants to do something new and significant in our lives!

One of the greatest reasons people are still in prison and living in torment is because of unforgiveness. Stop talking about your painful past, let it go!

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WORKS

Now we look inside, and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life emerges! (2 Corinthians 5:17 The Message Bible.) This is a memorial in our lives... God saved us! We should never forget where we came from. This memorial should also be a beacon of hope to others! Challenge cell members to share their salvation-story with at least one person during this week.