

## Welcome To The Party Pt. 1 Remembering The Past

### Small Group Questions:

1. Do you like to remember the past? Why or why not?
  2. How do you like to remember the past? What does this do for you in the present?
  3. Read Joshua 4:1-24. Why is it important to remember the past? How are we to do that?
  4. What stood out to you from the video about SMCC's past?
  5. Do you think of Christianity like a party? Why or why not?
  6. Why did Jesus include a party metaphor in the famous parable of the Prodigal Sons?
  7. Take some time to thank God for what He has done in the past in your life and our church.
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Remembering the **PAST** strengthens us in the **PRESENT** and motivates us for the **FUTURE**.

**Psalm 77:11-12** *I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago. 12 I will consider all your works and meditate on all your mighty deeds."*

**Joshua 4:1-24** *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 are standing, and 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." ...21 He said to the Israelites, "In the future when your descendants ask their parents, '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 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."*

We must not **FORGET** God's story.

### Past Video Here

**Psalm 77:11-12** *I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago. 12 I will consider all your works and meditate on all your mighty deeds."*

**Luke 15:11-24** Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. 12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. 13 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. 17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' 20 So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. 21 "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' 22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

**Prodigal:** Extravagant, spending everything.

Everyone has an idea of what makes life a **PARTY**.

Irreligion is assumed to be a party, religion is often seen as the opposite of a party, but the **GOSPEL** is truly a party.

*You have to fight for your right to party.* Beastie Boys

**EVERYONE** is welcome to the party.

Would you say yes, like so many before us, to do whatever it takes to reach just one more?