



Do This When Life is Dark

Joshua 3:15-4:9

About Down & Out

If you've ever felt down and out, here's what we are going to discover in this series: You may be down, but you're never out. There is still hope. Sure, you may be behind. Sure, you may feel down. But you're not out. It may be the Bottom of the Ninth, but there's still a chance to turn this game around.

One Thing: Remembering the light brings hope to the dark.

Introduction

Selfie-Sticks! I think we'll look back on these and think, "This is where the wheels came off our society." In one way, selfie-sticks highlight our pre-occupation with ourselves.

But, there's more to it. Selfie-sticks also highlight our desire to capture moments. That's not all bad. We want to capture the perfect moment in time. We all want our "Kodak moment."

Why? Because we know we'll forget ...

Struggle

Today's message isn't just for people in down and out situations. Today's message will help us all prepare for down and out moments. In fact, God commanded His people to do this.

Moments of Dark

We all have dark moments. You can't see how they're going to end. Your faith gets stretched and tested during these times.

Moments of Light

We all have moments of light. Do you remember when you prayed and prayed and made all those promises to God?

How could we ever forget the moments of light? But we do, don't we?

I thought I'd never _____, but I did. *God is so faithful!*

Why is this important?

God knows our tendency to doubt in the dark what we've learned in the light.

Light can bring hope to the dark only when we choose to remember what happened in the light.

Truth

Read Joshua 3:15-17

Application

Will you **remember** what you saw in the light, so you don't forget in the dark?

The light found in remembering God's faithfulness provides **hope** that helps dispel, overcome, and illuminate the darkness.

To **remember, memorialize.**

Conclusion

Remembering what God did for you in the light provides hope when you find yourself in the dark.

But you won't remember. And that's the point. So, don't just stop trying to remember. Create something that will remind you to remember.

Memorialize what God did in the light, so you can point to what He can do in the dark. Use a selfie-stick if you have to, but capture the moment.

Memorials: a place, a verse, a person, an item, a journal, a song, a box ...

The dark isn't so dark when you have memorials of the light.

Action Items / Next Steps

- Memorize Joshua 4:7
- Set Up Your Memorial.
- Join Us for Down & Out, Part 3: What Do You Do When You Lose?
- Let us pray for you.