

REMEMBER!
Ephesians 2:11-13

Introduction:

- A. The human brain
 - 1. Stores everything you have r_____, seen, heard.
 - 2. Stores every e_____ you have experienced
- B. The problem with the human brain – r_____ an unbelievable
 - 1. _____% of what you hear today may be forgotten by next Sunday.
 - 2. You can lesson that percentage by using memory a_____
 - a. The Bible p_____ itself – look at it, read it, as we study it.
 - b. The n_____ - fill in the blanks as you listen or when you get home.
 - c. D_____ the passage with others.
- C. In our lesson today, the apostle Paul commands his readers to remember (Eph 2:11-13).
 - 1. The passage begins with the word _____ (KJV – wherefore; NLT and NIV fail to translate this important word).
 - a. It points back to what was taught and gives a l_____ action based on that teaching.
 - b. It points back to the teaching that salvation is by g_____ through faith and that God has recreated us to do good works
 - 2. In light of the fact that we are saved by grace through faith and are made into a new creation to do good works, REMEMBER!

Remember the p____ - Christian you (11,12a)

- A. The non-Jewish readers of Paul
 - 1. Paul calls them G_____ in the flesh (i.e. they were not of Jewish ancestry).
 - 2. Were called the Uncircumcision by the s_____
Circumcision.
 - a. Most of the world did not practice circumcising their sons but God c_____ Abraham and his descendants to do so (Gen 17:10-12).
 - b. Uncircumcision was eventually equated with being spiritually un_____ to the point of being cut off from God (1Sam 17:26; 1Sam 31:4)

c. Circumcision was equated with being spiritually c_____ and connected to God, but notice Paul implies this to be an error for those who called themselves the Circumcision were circumcised in the flesh only not in the h_____ (see Jer 9:25).

d. But the readers of Paul were rightly called the Uncircumcision for they were s_____ from Christ.

B. Remember who you were before you came to faith in Christ.

1. You lived your life without God (you did not relate p_____ to Him)
2. You made certain lifestyle c_____ that messed up your life (e.g. alcohol, drugs, sexual).
3. You pursued temporary things to fill a v_____ (athletics, hobbies, careers, finances)
4. Are you glad that you are not that person anymore?

Remember the p_____ you have in Christ (12)

A. Paul lists some privileges Jewish people had that Gentiles did not have.

1. Knowledge about C_____ through the prophets and the Old Testament scriptures – He would establish His kingdom and reign forever.
 - a. Gentiles thought that kingdoms rose and fell due to military m_____ and genius (e.g. Alexander the Great)
 - b. God is the one who causes kingdoms to rise and fall (Dan 4:25).
2. C_____ in God's kingdom - All Gentiles who became believers in the God of Israel became citizens of the community of Israel
 - a. R_____ the harlot (Josh 6:25)
 - b. R_____ the Moabite (Ruth 1:16)
 - c. The above are named in the genealogy of J_____ (Matt 1:5)
3. The covenants of promise which was made with Abraham
 - a. Yahweh would be their G_____
 - b. Canaan would be their l_____

B. What privileges do believers in Christ have?

1. Knowing Christ's w_____ (Matt 24:35) – are you exercising this privilege by reading it, learning it, living it (2Tim 3:16,17).

2. Being part of the p_____ of God.
 - a. Connect yourself to a b_____ of believers (e.g. this church) – Rom 12:4,5
 - b. Connect yourself with believers in this church by getting p_____ with one other (talk, share, help, work together, etc)
3. Having Jesus as our L_____ - does your life show that He is your Lord? (Rom 6:12,13).

Remember the p_____ Christ paid (13)

- A. The readers of Paul were once f_____ away from God but were brought n_____ by Christ's blood.
 1. The blood reminds us of the v_____ suffering and death that Jesus voluntarily experienced to pay for our wrongs.
 2. The term Christ reminds us that God had to become a m_____.
 - a. All have s_____ and have fallen short of God's glory (Rom 3:23)
 - b. So, God had to become man in the person of Jesus (Jn 1:1,14 – Jesus is God in the flesh who did not fall short of God's glory but revealed it.
- B. The Lord's Supper was instituted by Jesus as a regular celebration so that we would remember the c_____ of our salvation.

Conclusion:

- A. Use the memory a_____ so you can recall this message (your Bible, the sermon notes, discussion)
- B. Each day this week remember:
 1. The pre-Christian you and appreciate the new person you are in Christ.
 2. The privileges you have in being a new creation in Christ and exercise those privileges.
 3. The price Jesus paid to make you into that new person and give you those privileges.