



**BIG IDEA** 

I can remember what God has done for us.

THE BIBLE

Crossing the Jordan River: Joshua 3:10-4:9

#### MUSIC | Worship Songs

• Sing some worship songs together as a family!

### **QUESTION** | Your Favorite Memories

- Do you like to remember things that have happened?
- What is one of your favorite memories?
- How does your family keep a record of memories? Scrapbooks? Instagram?
- Today, we are going to learn about how the people of God sometimes remembered what God had done for them.

### VIDEO | Epic, Week 4 – Crossing the Jordan River

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's Bible story video with Pastor Robin and Mr. Harrison!

# SCRIPTURE | Joshua 3:10-4:9

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** In advance, gather twelve paving stones or flat garden stones. Find Joshua 3 in your Bible and encourage the kids to find it, too. While reading the verses, pause at the indicated points below to pile the stones one at a time. Explain stacking stones was a way for the Israelites to remember, so your stack of stones will help you remember important parts of the story.
- (Read Joshua 3:10, then add a stone.) We remember God is with us.
- *(Read verse 13, then add a stone.)* We remember God makes promises and keeps them.
- (Read verse 16, then add a stone.) We remember God does miracles.
- (Read verse 17, then add a stone.) We remember God cares for everyone.
- (Read Joshua 4:3, then add a stone.) We remember God is faithful.

# Grow EPIC | WEEK 4 ELEMENTARY AT HOME LESSON

- (*Read verse 7, then add a stone.*) We remember to thank God.
- (*Read verse 8, then add a stone.*) We remember to obey.
- (*Read verse 9, then add a stone.*) We remember to tell others about what God has done for us.
- (Read verse 11, then add a stone.) We remember to pay attention to what God is doing.
- (Read verse 18, then add a stone.) We remember God keeps promises.
- (*Read verse 22, then add a stone.*) We remember to praise God for what God has done.
- (Read verse 24, then add a stone.) We remember God is great.

# ACTIVITY | Remembrance

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Before the kids arrive, collect pictures of significant events in history, ones that most of your kids would know. Have kids describe each event. You could also include pictures of past events in your group and have kids remind each other of those occasions.
  - **PRETEEN HACK:** If possible, ask kids the week before to bring in pictures of then as a younger child and share what they remember about that photo.
- How are these pictures like the stones in today's story?

### DISCUSSION

- Why did the Israelites build an altar after crossing the Jordan River?
- Why were there twelve stones?
- Can you remember other times in the Bible where God's people were told to remember what God had done?
- Read Joshua 4:6b-7. Imagine one of the kids in the Bible story had asked you, "What do these stones mean?" How would you explain it to them?
- Do you or your family have things you do to remember events that have happened before?
- What are some things we do at church to remind us of things God has done?
- Why is it important to remember?

# ACTIVITY | Story Stones

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a medium-sized smooth stone and permanent marker. Invite them to write a word or draw a picture or symbol to remind them of something God has done for them. Encourage them to carry the stone with them as a reminder.
  - **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** For kids with fine motor challenges, provide thicker markers that are easier to grip as drawing utensils.

# MEMORY VERSE | Set in Stone; 1 Samuel 12:24 (NIV)

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ahead of time, write the memory verse on smooth stones, one word on each stone. Encourage the kids to put the stones in order to create the memory verse, and ask them to repeat it as they do.



#### PRAYER

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** As a group, make a list of ten things God has done for you (either individually or as a group). You may find it helpful to write down this list. Ask for a few volunteers to read items off of this list at the designated point in the prayer below.
- Dear God, You have done so many things for us *(Read the list you just created together).* Thank You for always being with us in this EPIC story we get to be part of. Help us to always remember Your never-changing love.