



REMEMBERING THE MIRACLES (Sermon)

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Morning Scripture Reading: Isaiah 41:10

Suggested Hymns:

Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal, No. 482, “Father, Lead Me Day by Day”

Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal, No. 539, “I Will Early Seek the Savior”

Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal, No. 518, “Standing on the Promises”

Remembering how the Lord has led us in the past always helps lead us now and in the future. The people of Israel were regularly reminded of the value of remembering miraculous events in their history. Remembering how the Lord has led us opens doors to tell others about the gospel story and showing them how the Lord can also work miracles in their lives.

Presentation ideas:

This Sabbath School program is based on the principle that *we need to train ourselves to remember how the Lord has led us in the past*. Two styles of introductory remarks are included. They outline the same principle in two different ways.

You can decide on the methodology for presenting this program that would be most effective in your environment. You can put the texts on the screen and have someone read them (either from the front or off-stage with a remote microphone).

You could have some Sabbath School members give short testimonies on how the Lord has led them. You could have one or two people tell stories about the Lord’s leading. You could ask the audience a week in advance to write out a short story of how the Lord has led them and then present one or two of the stories. You could make copies of some of the stories and hand them out to the congregation. Then divide the congregation into small groups and have them discuss the blessings they receive from these stories.

Comment suggestion No. 1

When the prophet Haggai wrote the words in the book of Haggai, the rainy season had just begun in Palestine. Since the people had started to rebuild the Temple things had gone better for them. Now they could look forward to better times and better harvests. But the prophet did not want the people to forget the past.

When things are going well, we tend to forget what the Lord has done for us. One of the best things about Sabbath School is that it gives us a chance to study again God’s providence.

The Bible uses the word “remember” a great deal. God says that He remembers His covenant. He asks us not to forget ours. He asks us to remember:

- The Sabbath day as a sign of loyalty (Ex. 20:8).
- All the commandments of the Lord (Num. 15:39).
- The way the Lord has led (Deut. 8:2).
- That the Lord is the one who gives us what we have (Deut. 8:18).
- The days of old—past experiences (Deut. 32:7).
- His marvelous works (1 Chron. 16:12).
- Remember Him while we are young (Eccl. 12:1) and when we are old (Ps. 77:10).
- The instruction the Lord has given us (Rev. 3:3).

Comment suggestion No. 2

(Instead of a list of things to remember, these remarks are an exhortation that focuses on God's power to keep us.)

We claim God’s promises of divine providence as we remember the ways He has led in the past. “Give careful thought” the prophet Haggai says, “from this day on—consider how things were before one stone was laid on another in the Lord's temple” (Haggai 2:15).

God “keeps” His people. He watches over them. We claim that promise as we think about the ways He has led us in the past. “To him who is able to keep you from stumbling” (Jude 1:24). Place inside the word “you” in this text all the weakness, the unworthiness, the sinfulness that belongs to mankind since the fall.

As an anonymous poet once wrote:

The devil may wall you ‘round
But he cannot roof you in;
He may fetter your feet and tie your hands
And strive to hamper your soul with bands
As his way has ever been;
But he cannot hide the face of God.

Closing song

Concluding prayer