

**October 23, 2016**

**Series: Fear Knots**

**Sermon Title: *Stones, Stories and Statues***

**Key Scriptures:**

**Joshua 1:5 (NRSV)**

**<sup>5</sup>No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; *I WILL NEVER LEAVE YOU NOR FORSAKE YOU.***

**Primary Scriptures:**

**Joshua 4:4-7 / 20-24 (NRSV)**

**<sup>4</sup>Then Joshua summoned the twelve men from the Israelites, whom he had appointed, one from each tribe. <sup>5</sup>Joshua said to them, “Pass on before the ark of the Lord your God into the middle of the Jordan, and each of you take up a stone on his shoulder, one for each of the tribes of the Israelites, <sup>6</sup>so that this may be a sign among you. When your children ask in time to come, ‘What do those stones mean to you?’ <sup>7</sup>then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off in front of the ark of the covenant of the Lord. When it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones shall be to the Israelites a memorial forever.”**

**<sup>20</sup>Those twelve stones, which they had taken out of the Jordan, Joshua set up in Gilgal, <sup>21</sup>saying to the Israelites, “When your children ask their parents in time to come, ‘What do these stones mean?’ <sup>22</sup>then you shall let your children know, ‘Israel crossed over the Jordan here on dry ground.’ <sup>23</sup>For the Lord your God dried up the waters of the Jordan for you until you crossed over, as the Lord your God did to the Red Sea, which he dried up for us until we crossed over, <sup>24</sup>so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the Lord is mighty, and so that you may fear the Lord your God forever.”**

**The Key:  
Tell it again!**

The Mission of Clearbranch UMC is  
to ENGAGE people through relational ministry,  
to EQUIP disciples for Christ and  
to EMPLOY their gifts through missions.

### **REMEMBER God's works**

**Joshua 4:4-6a (NRSV) <sup>4</sup>Then Joshua summoned the twelve men from the Israelites, whom he had appointed, one from each tribe. <sup>5</sup>Joshua said to them, “Pass on before the ark of the Lord your God into the middle of the Jordan, and each of you take up a stone on his shoulder, one for each of the tribes of the Israelites, <sup>6a</sup>so that this may be a sign among you.**

**Joshua 4:20-21 (NRSV) <sup>20</sup>Those twelve stones, which they had taken out of the Jordan, Joshua set up in Gilgal, <sup>21</sup>saying to the Israelites, “When your children ask their parents in time to come, ‘What do these stones mean?’**

### **TELL of God's works**

**Joshua 4:6b-7 (NRSV) <sup>6b</sup>When your children ask in time to come, ‘What do those stones mean to you?’ <sup>7</sup>then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off in front of the ark of the covenant of the Lord. When it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones shall be to the Israelites a memorial forever.”**

**Joshua 4:22-24 (NRSV) <sup>22</sup>then you shall let your children know, ‘Israel crossed over the Jordan here on dry ground.’ <sup>23</sup>For the Lord your God dried up the waters of the Jordan for you until you crossed over, as the Lord your God did to the Red Sea, which he dried up for us until we crossed over, <sup>24</sup>so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the Lord is mighty, and so that you may fear the Lord your God forever.”**

### **CELEBRATE God's works**

**Joshua 4:24 (NRSV) <sup>24</sup>so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the Lord is mighty, and so that you may fear the Lord your God forever.”**

**Joshua 4:7b (NRSV) <sup>7b</sup>So these stones shall be to the Israelites a memorial forever.”**

### **Challenge Questions:**

**Will you make a top ten list of the ways God has shown up in your life?**

**Who will you tell of God's goodness in your life?**

**How will you thank and celebrate God's faithfulness?**

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The Vision of Clearbranch UMC is Transformed Lives offering the Transforming Love of Christ.