

## Remember and Celebrate

### Remember, don't forget

- Leviticus 23 · Deuteronomy 8:2, 11-14 · Psalm 145:6-7

### Celebrate

- Celebrate what God has done in people's lives and in our church as a whole.
- Celebrate God's great generosity and the generosity of our church community.
- Take a moment to remember and celebrate what God has done in your life this summer.

Spend some time writing that out here:

### Communion

- Communion is the way that we remember and celebrate what Jesus has done for us on the cross.

## Digging Deeper

From God's early history with His people, He required celebrations (feasts) to be part of the natural rhythm of life for Israel. And the New Testament record shows that Jesus and the early church kept these celebrations as well. While we are not bound to keep these feasts, knowledge of them enhances our faith and helps us remember and celebrate well. The rich symbolism of feasts gives testimony to the character of God demonstrated in His work on our behalf:

1. **The Sabbath:** (Leviticus 23:1-3) A perpetual celebration of worship and rest to mark God's finished work, first in Creation and then in the redemptive work of Christ on the cross.
2. **The Feasts of Passover and Unleavened Bread:** (Leviticus 23:4-8) A celebration of God's miraculous deliverance of the Israelites from the bondage of Egypt and His ultimate deliverance of us from the bondage of sin.
3. **The Feast of First Fruits:** (Leviticus 23:9-14) A remembrance of God's abundant provision, particularly through Christ's death and resurrection providing us with the opportunity to live an abundant life.
4. **The Feast of Weeks and Pentecost:** (Leviticus 23:15-22) A celebration of God establishing the nation of Israel at Mt. Sinai and the sending of the Holy Spirit to indwell and empower the Church.
5. **The Feast of Trumpets:** (Leviticus 23:23-25) A celebration of God's faithfulness to His covenant promise and the future calling to Himself of all who believe in Christ.
6. **The Day of Atonement:** (Leviticus 23:32) A remembrance of God's righteousness that demands a sacrifice and the ultimate work of atonement completed in Christ.
7. **The Feast of Tabernacles:** (Leviticus 33-44) A celebration of God's blessing to all who remember their wanderings and seek to obey Him.

## Next Steps

1. **Take a moment this week to reflect, journal and pray through what God has done in your life these past few months.** Remember and celebrate. You could also consider ways to incorporate remembering and celebrating into the life of your group of friends or family.
2. **Consider celebrating some of the biblical feasts listed in Leviticus, not out of obligation, but to help you remember and celebrate.** You can find more information in the book "God's Appointed Times" by Barney Kasdan, A Practical Guide for Understanding and Celebrating the Biblical Holy Days.
3. **Join us for the special One Service next Sunday at 10:00 am** where we can continue to Remember and Celebrate what God has done in Calvary Church as we also look to His guidance for the future.

## LifeGroup Discussion

1. How have you practiced remembering and celebrating with your friends or family?
2. Share about something that God did in your life this summer. Share about something that you saw God did in someone else's life this summer. Praise God for that!
3. Spend time in prayer asking God to continue to work in your LifeGroup and in our church for greater impact for the Kingdom of God.