

Radical - Part 5 - "Generational Responsibility"

Psalm 100:4-5 ESV

4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

5 For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Deuteronomy 6:1-12 NIV

1These are the commands, decrees and laws the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, 2 so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the Lord your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. 3 Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, promised you. 4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

10 When the Lord your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, 11 houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied, 12 be careful that you do not forget the Lord, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

Key Points

- In the way of Jesus, the pursuit of greatness reside in answering the call to serve.
- Serving is the language of love. The language of our investment is cooperative and relational.
- Serving together is leadership development.
- We want to be a church that invests in the next generation to know them, love them, and share with them the love and hope of Jesus Christ.
- God's love requires generational expression and generational responsibility.
- A church is only as strong as its willingness to prioritize the next generation.
- Growing a culture of servanthood builds trust while strengthening the foundation of our community. Personal ownership is required for shared responsibility.

<u>READ</u>

Open your time together by reading the scripture passages on Page 1. Then, take a moment to consider what you just read:

- What does it mean that God's Kingdom is generational in its expression?
- How are we called to steward the message of Christ for those yet to come?
- What type of relational investment are believers called to display toward the next generation?

REFLECT

- Complete the following sentence: The next generation sees the Church as ______. What makes you answer in the way that you do?
- Serving together is leadership development. How have you seen the truth of this statement play out in your life?

RESPOND

- What do you want your generational expression of the church to be remembered for?
- Personal ownership is required for shared responsibility. How are you rolling up your sleeves and getting involved to reach and impact the next generation?

<u>PRAY</u>

Close your time together with prayer requests. Ask how you can pray, support, and lift one another up. Pray over these requests either collectively or by breaking up into prayer partners.