

"Find Us Faithful"
Chapter 3 –Helping the Next Generation to be Faithful to Christ
(Lessons from the Life of David)
Aug. 26, 2012

Pass the Baton!

1. Hold "the faith" firmly yourself.

- Know the Lord.

"The Lord is my shepherd..." (Ps. 23:1)

- Know what you believe.

"If your sons keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, their sons also forever shall sit on your throne." (Ps. 132:12)

- Live what you believe.

"The righteous who walks in his integrity-blessed are his children after him." (Prov. 20:7)

*"So these nations feared the Lord and also served their carved images. Their children did likewise and their children's children as their fathers did - so they do to this day."
(2 Kings 17:41)*

*"Visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the 3rd and 4th generation."
(Ex.20:5)*

2. Communicate "the faith" clearly.

"You shall teach them diligently to your children." (Deut. 6:7a)

"Train up a child in the way he should go." (Prov. 22:6)

"It shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation." (Psalms 22:30)

3. Lead the way to "the faith."

"Job would send and consecrate them and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all." (Job 1:5)

"One generation shall commend your works to another." (Ps. 145:4)

Application:

1. Is your faith in the Lord clear? Take time right now and fully surrender to Him. Sit down with your family and clarify to them your faith in Christ. Write down your spiritual journey and give a copy to them.
2. Pray for opportunities to share with your family what you are learning. Be the spiritual leader God wants you to be.

Bible Study Questions/ Discussion
"Pass the Baton"
Lessons from David –Aug. 26, 2012

1. Did you struggle with the older generation when you were a teen? Do you struggle with younger generations today? Why do we tend to struggle? Discuss the illustration of passing the baton in a relay race and its application to the Christian community.
2. Before you can "pass the baton" you need to hold it firmly yourself. Describe David's personal relationship with God. (Psalm 23:1) Discuss what this means relationally using the illustration of a lamb and a shepherd. (Psalm 23:4; 100:3; Isa. 40:11; John 10:4,11,14)
3. What kind of agreement did the Lord make with David? (Psalm 132:12; I Chron. 17:8,11,14; 28:7,9) If he wanted his sons to be blessed by the Lord what decisions needed to be made? Was an external effort enough to make an impact on his kids? Why?
4. Kids notice when we practice what we believe. Read Prov. 20:7 and discuss the connection between belief and behavior and the impact we have. Read 2 Kings 17:41. What kind of compromise did the people of Israel make and what impact did it have on their children? What did Elijah say to Israel on Mt. Carmel? (I Kings 18:21) What did Jesus say about compromise? (Matt. 6:24)
5. If God holds each person responsible individually then what does it mean in Ex. 20:5 when sin is visited upon the 3rd and 4th generation? Did you ever have to deal with the sin of your parents or even grandparents?
6. To "pass the baton," we must be diligent about doing it. (Deut. 6:7) What kind of "teachable moments" do you have throughout day to day activities? Discuss the application illustration of training an animal and training a child. How is it similar and how is it different? (Prov. 22:6) What kind of "God" conversations can you have with other generations? (Psalm 22:30)
7. Describe the spiritual leadership of Job in his family. (Job 1:5) There are two good examples in Acts of spiritual leadership in a home. (Acts 10:24; 16:33) We do not force our kids to follow Christ, but what can we do? (Psalm 145:4)
8. Pray for opportunities to "pass the baton" this week. Pray for someone of a different generation and pray for teachable moments.