CALL TO ACTION SERIES EPISODE 1: THE IMPERATIVE





look back

First, **LOOK BACK** at the past week by asking, "How did we do?" Begin with prayer, then check in with one another—sharing honestly, celebrating victories, acknowledging struggles, and graciously offering practical help.



PRAYER - Begin with prayer, inviting Jesus into the conversation.

Since this is the first episode of this series, take time to:

- Share what brought you here and why you decided to begin this study.
- Talk about the challenges you're currently facing as a grandparent (or "grandperson").
- Reflect on what you hope to gain from these episodes.
- Share what motivates you to leave a spiritual legacy for the next generation.



I look up

Next, **LOOK UP** to God's Word by asking, "What does Jesus want us to know?" This part of the journey anchors you in the Scriptures and principles at the heart of the episode. If you haven't already, watch this week's video: "Call to Action Series: The Imperative." Then use the "What Do You Think?" and "What Does God's Word Say?" sections to draw out the main truths together.



Watch: Call to Action Series: The Imperative

Episode Summary

We live in a time of rapid cultural change and widening generational divide. Christians are called to be the "City of God"—a light in the darkness and salt that preserves society. Our time is limited; we must use it wisely to impact future generations. Building bridges to younger generations is crucial for sharing faith and preserving God's truth.

HOW TO USE THESE RESOURCES

Whether you're studying on your own or with a group, each guide follows a simple yet powerful rhythm: Look Back/ Look Up / Look Forward. For group leaders, additional instructions for leading a small group are included at the end of the first workbook in each series.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- 1. Who helped nurture faith in you when you were young, and what made their influence meaningful?
- 2. History warns us through the falls of Carthage, Rome, and Jerusalem. What lessons do these examples offer about the urgency of passing on faith and values?
- 3. Dr. Bob says "the barbarians are again at the gates." What cultural changes or challenges concern you most about the future?
- 4. Hezekiah prayed and God gave him fifteen extra years of life. If you were given extra time, how would you use it to serve God and care for your family?
- 5. Think of the "relay race of the ages." How can you ensure you pass the baton of faith effectively to the next generation?

WHAT DOES GOD'S WORD SAY?

KEY VERSE

Hebrews 9:27 (NIV) Scripture reminds us, "...people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment." A sobering reminder to those in the fourth quarter of life, that a day is coming when we will give an account for how we invested our time on earth.

SUPPORTING VERSE

Luke 12:48 (NIV) "From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked." Because we've been given so much in this fourth quarter—time, wisdom, and influence—Jesus expects much more of us.

"Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come." There is no greater imperative than to leave a legacy of faith for our next generations.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

Deuteronomy 4:9 Joel 1:3 Psalm 78:4



Finally, **LOOK FORWARD** by asking, "What does Jesus want us to do?" Commit to simple, practical steps for living out this week's lesson. Review the assignment, share commitments with the group, pray for one another, and step forward together with faith and hope.

THIS WEEK'S ASSIGNMENT

Identify one younger person in your life and commit to building a stronger relationship with them this week. Take a concrete step: a phone call, coffee, or a shared activity, and pray specifically for opportunities to talk about faith.

PERSONAL GROWTH COMMITMENTS

• What has God laid on my heart?

- What is the Holy Spirit leading me to change?
- What will I do in my own life, in my relationships, and to reach next-gen loved ones?

SHARE WITH THE GROUP



Encourage sharing commitments, prayer needs, and real-life stories. Close with prayer.

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ESSENTIALS FOR LEADING A SMALL GROUP

These principles will help create a safe, encouraging environment where everyone can grow and connect:

- **Begin with Prayer** Invite Jesus into the meeting and ask for His guidance. Prayer can also help refocus if discussion drifts or stalls.
- **Create a Welcoming Setup** Sit in a circle so everyone can see each other. Affirm contributions and foster an atmosphere where every question and comment is welcomed without judgment.
- Facilitate, Don't Lecture Guide the conversation using thoughtful, Scripturebased questions. Aim for participants to do most of the talking while you model active listening.
- **Stay on Mission** Gently redirect if conversation strays into politics or unrelated topics, keeping focus on the greater purpose of reaching and discipling the next generation.
- Model Grace & Openness Be transparent about your own journey, admit you
 don't have all the answers, and set expectations for confidentiality, respect, and
 grace.
- **Build Relationships** Include some social time before or after the episode to strengthen trust and connection.
- Follow the Look Back / Look Up / Look Forward Rhythm Stick to the format for balance, and practice compassionate accountability—celebrating progress and offering grace for struggles.

