

#1 - INTRODUCTION

I. *Series Intro*

1. Marriage, why not parenting
 - (1) More than parenting
2. Why I've Avoided:
 - (1) Affect on My life
 - i. My kids; my mistakes
 - (2) Affect on Your life

II. **What Is A Legacy**

1. Legacy: something transmitted by or received from an ancestor or predecessor or from the past
 - (1) It's unfortunate that's the best definition we have.
 - (2) Let me take a stab at succinctly summarizing the biblical idea of legacy:
 - i. Lengthen shadow...covering...the shape of that shadow
 - ii. God gives us mandates...stewarding of those legacy in our own lives...so that the lengthen shadow we cast is shaped like Jesus.

➔ **BIG IDEA:** When we steward God's mandates, we leave a legacy worth leaving. But a warning: a legacy is painful and costly; and nobody knows this better than Jesus.



#2 - LEGACY IS MANDATED

I. We Assume A Legacy In Jesus

1. Application

Gen. 1:27: *"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them."*

(1) This is the highest calling of every person...to recover their identity as image bearers.

Php. 3:14: *"I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."*

(2) Upward = highest

II. We Reflect This Legacy Through Covenant

1. Application

(1) God covenants with us...so we covenant with others...with marriage as the chief mandate

Gen. 2:18: *"Then the LORD God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.'"*

Prov. 18:22: *"He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the LORD."*

(2) Chief mandate: God designed us, both anatomically and emotionally, for marriage

1 Cor. 7:7: *"I wish that all were as I myself am...it is good for them to remain single..."*

(3) Is Paul flying in the face of the creation mandate to marry? No. Look at his reason:

1 Cor. 7:35: *"...that you may serve the Lord without distraction."*

(4) Some are uniquely called and gifted to serve the Lord in a capacity only singleness allows for.

John 3:29: *"He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice So this joy of mine has been made full."*

(5) Jesus not only espouses Himself to them spiritually, but even supplants the physical need.

III. We Multiply This Legacy In Disciples

1. Application

(1) Legacy is not only meant to be reflected, but handed down:

Gen. 1:28: *"And God blessed them. And God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it...'"*

(2) Jesus speaking about those who can't have children:

Matt. 19:11-12: *"Not everyone can receive this saying, but only those to whom it is given. For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let the one who is able to receive this receive it."*

(3) In other words, this mandate cannot be fulfilled by everyone in a physical sense. Therefore...

1 Tim. 5:1: *"Do not rebuke an older man but encourage him as you would a father, younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity."*

1 Tim. 1:2: *"To Timothy, my true child in the faith..."*

2 Tim. 1:2: *"To Timothy, my beloved child..."*

➔ **BIG IDEA:** When we steward God's mandates, we leave a legacy worth leaving. But a warning: a legacy is painful and costly; and nobody knows this better than Jesus.



#3 - LEGACY IS DIFFICULT

Key Text: "lorem ipsum"

I. Acknowledging The Pain of Legacy

1. Application

(1) Legacy is painful

Gen. 3:15-16: "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring...I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband..."

- i. The death of a child
- ii. The loss of a child (relationship; fostering)
- iii. The heartbreak of child
- iv. The inability to have a child
- v. Sickness, suffering, selfishness...it's all part of the gig.

II. Acknowledging the Cost of Legacy

1. Application

(1) Responding (to behavior) and referring (to specialists).

- i. This is not our mandate

(2) The mandated cost of energy, mitigating what you can respond to:

Eph. 6:4: "...do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord."

- i. It's much easier to respond and refer.

2 Cor. 10:5: "We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ..."

- ii. How you were raised, books you've read, experiences you've had, opinions you hold.
- iii. All are brought to bear on the Gospel

(3) The mandated cost of time, mitigating what you can refer out

Deut. 11:18-21: "You shall therefore lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall teach them to your children, talking of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you are walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth."

- i. It is our responsibility to leave a legacy in the lives of those who come after us...not someone else.

(4) Nobody understands the pain and the cost more than Jesus

1 Pet. 2:21: "For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an [legacy], so that you might follow in his steps..."

1 Cor. 6:20: "For you were bought with a price. So glorify God..."

- i. Jesus' legacy came at great personal cost and great pain to Himself.

➔ **BIG IDEA:** When we steward God's mandates, we leave a legacy worth leaving. But a warning: a legacy is painful and costly; and nobody knows this better than Jesus.



#4 - CONCLUSION

III. Persistent Prayer

1. MC's prayer for children...talk about expectations and disappointments
2. How those of you without natural children of your own can minister in a more prominent way as spiritual mother's and father's during this season.
 - (1) Step in as advocates?

IV. Present Prayer

1. Stick notes.
 - SLIDE:** *Sticky #1*
 - SLIDE:** *Sticky #2*
 - SLIDE:** *Sticky #3*

➔ **BIG IDEA:** When we steward God's mandates, we leave a legacy worth leaving. But a warning: a legacy is painful and costly; and nobody knows this better than Jesus.

