

GENERATIONS
Deuteronomy 6:1-9
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Introduction

Calvary Worship Center has a new vision: ***We help people make it through.*** And we're launching a new discipleship pathway—we want to have an impact with “rippling effects” until Jesus returns!

For this to happen, each one of us can and should take time to invest in the people around us—where we live, work, play, worship—to impact generations of Christ-followers. Let's look at *why* and *how*.

1. God commanded it.

“And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates” (Deuteronomy 6:6-9).

Notice that this is continual, intentional, pervasive!

“One generation shall praise Your works to another, And shall declare Your mighty acts” (Psalm 145:4).

2. Jesus demonstrated it.

“For he [Simon Peter] and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, ‘Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men’ ” (Luke 5:9-10).

“I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word” (John 17:20).

See as well Matthew 25:34-36 and James 2:14-17. We can't just say “be warmed and filled” to the needy. Remember, *people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care!*

3. The disciples caught it, taught it, lived it out.

“And the Lord said, ‘Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren’ ” (Luke 22:31-32). *When early church leader Peter preached (Acts 2), some 3,000 trusted Jesus!*

“I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth” (3 John 4).

Also see Matthew 9:35-38 and how the disciples became the answer to their own prayers (Matthew 10:5)!

Conclusion

So . . . how does this help you make it through—in your own life, and with an impact for generations?
Prepare. Be there. Care! Perhaps the best “call to action” is reflected in the song by Christian artist Brandon Heath, “Give Me Your Eyes.”

Pastor Dean has written or co-written a number of resources published by Make a Mark Ministries with the aim “for the gospel and generations.” Find them on Amazon.com or as free downloads at www.makeamark.net.