

ALL IN

Table is Ready

To win the heart of the next generation, it will take all of us, going all in, with all we have.

- God gave Elisha a battle strategy of where the enemy would attack so that God's people could show up first. When they did, the enemy was confused, and the victory was won.
- The same is true today. When God's people use God's strategy to get there first, the enemy is confused and we win, whether it be at home, in business, education, family, or church.

Thinking Bigger about Next Gen.

Psalm 145:4 (NIV)

Let each generation tell its children of your mighty acts; let them proclaim your power.

- The next generation is the one beside me.
 - A multigenerational church is where every living generation is celebrated, growing, and share equal responsibility of the vision. (LifeGate Value)
 - **The church that focuses on the next generation never ceases to exist.** Churches that don't, close. But churches where every generation accepts their assignment to pass their faith to those behind them are vibrant, healthy, and growing.
1. **Churches with the greatest impact are ones where all generations are growing and going together.**
 2. **There's a partnership between the family and the church to impact the next generation.**

Psalm 128:3 (NKJV)

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the very heart of your house, your children like olive plants all around your table.

- Most people who believe in Jesus do between the ages of 4-14.
- 15 years for an olive plant to become an olive tree. Once it does, it produces olives for generations.
- The table has been set, it's time to go ALL IN!!

Elisha and the Servant

2 Kings 6:15-17 (NIV)

¹⁵ When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. "Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?" the servant asked. ¹⁶ "Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. "Those who are with us are

more than those who are with them.”¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, “Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see.” Then the Lord opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

- Both guys are standing next to each other in the same battle, one sees with natural sight while one sees with supernatural vision.
- Don’t settle for natural sight when God wants to give you supernatural vision that will cause you to see something that needs to be seen.
- Elisha saw the Syrian army and realized in the natural they were completely outnumbered but he saw the greater reality of Heaven’s army.

The natural becomes peripheral when the supernatural becomes central.

- When your focus is on the natural, get ready to be overwhelmed. You are going to see problems in your life, our culture, and the world, and will be overwhelming but if you look up you will see there are more for you than against you.
- We aren’t going to ignore the battle around us. We can’t pretend nothing is happening.

What if instead of getting discouraged we were emboldened?

- Stepped forward instead of shrinking back, on the offense instead of defense, engaged faith instead of fear!
- Elisha could have stayed back (“Maybe he’ll learn another way” “That’s someone else’s job” “My time is done”) but instead...

1. He stood next to the next generation.

¹⁶ *“Don’t be afraid,” the prophet answered.*

- There is a space that God has destined us to fill next to them. We must get there first.
- **Be Present.** At home, at school, at church, at work.
- Notice in the Bible where God says to fear not, He always backs it up with, “I’m with you.” The power of presence. If this is the way God handles fear with us, what a great model for how we are to serve those behind us.
- Every person needs a person: God wired our faith to be shaped and influenced by someone else’s faith.

Ex. *Times when I was freaking out, my parents and Amy’s parents were calm. Why? Because they could see what I couldn’t.*

- ALL IN looks like families and the church prioritizing the places that direct the destiny of the next generation.

1 Corinthians 4:15 (CSV)

¹⁵ *For you may have countless instructors in Christ, but you don't have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel.*

- Perfect teaching doesn't dispel fear, but perfect love does. God has uniquely equipped spiritual fathers and mothers to be present with the next generation.

2. He spoke life over the next generation.

"Those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

- The power of life and death is in the tongue. We can choose to speak life into every relationship.
- Say it how you see it? Then change what you see. Look at how God instructed Israel to speak:

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 The Message

Attention, Israel! God, our God! God the one and only! Love God, your God, with your whole heart: love him with all that's in you, love him with all you've got! Write these commandments that I've given you today on your hearts. Get them inside of you and then get them inside your children. Talk about them wherever you are, sitting at home or walking in the street; talk about them from the time you get up in the morning to when you fall into bed at night. Tie them on your hands and foreheads as a reminder; inscribe them on the doorposts of your homes and on your city gates.

- Get them inside of you and get them inside of them!
- Talk about them everywhere you go!
- Put your hand to the Word and renew your mind with the Word.
- The doorpost and gates: God's word governs what comes in and what goes out of your home and what you influence.
- Maybe this didn't happen in your home. Maybe it wasn't given to you. That's okay, it's not too late. The time is now to get it!

3. He shared revelation with the next generation.

"Open his eyes, Lord, so that he may see."

- Instructors inform but spiritual fathers and mothers impart. Elisha asked God to give the servant a personal revelation.

- *What if the most important thing we pass to the next generation isn't something to do but someone to see. To see the king and His Kingdom. (Luke 12:32 Don't be afraid little flock for gives your father great pleasure to give you the Kingdom.)*

Matthew 19:14 (NIV)

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

- Children are not just the future of the Kingdom, they are the Kingdom.

Your Table is Ready!

Stand in place!

Speak life!

Share revelation!

and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

- The servant didn't just see the supernatural. He saw the supernatural around Elisha.
- Look at the power link between what they see and where we stand.
- God wants to reveal Himself to the next generation through you!
- Consistently being present in the life of the next generation and creating a place where they belong over time has a generational impact.

What will they see when they are standing next to me?

Response:

- Text nextgen to get more info about serving the Next Generation through LifeGate.
- Next Gen Team is in the welcome center to meet you and answer questions.