

## Legacy

Definition :

### 3. Culture, History, and Personal Impact (Noun)

In a broader sense, it refers to the lasting impact, traditions, or historical consequences of an individual, event, or society.

The Greatest Legacy is not what we leave to people ,it is what we leave in them .

The truth is we are all leaving something behind , weather you are intentionally thinking about it or not you are leaving something behind.

The better question is what are you leaving .

-Careers Fade

-Possesions disappear ( Money ,homes,car, etc)

-fame can be temporary

-even our lives are temporary

“Human beings are frail and temporary, like grass, and the glory of man fleeting like blossoms of the field. The grass dries and withers and the flowers fall off, but the Word of the Lord endures forever! And this is the Word that was announced to you!”

1 Peter 1:24-25 TPT

““Don’t store up treasures here on earth, where moths eat them and rust destroys them, and where thieves break in and steal. Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.”

Matthew 6:19-21 NLT

The Story of Mordecai Ham -

Was a southern baptist preacher He was holding a tent meeting one night and it was packed , Two young boys came to the meeting to see what was going on , when they peaked into the tent they saw it was full and there was no where for them to be seated together . So they decided to leave as they were leaving , its said an usher ( who's name no one remembers got the boys and sai ill find room for you so you can sit together . So he did and they sat and listened to Mordecai and they gave there lives to Christ that evening . The one kids name was Billy Graham .

But before we take off - Hasn't the messages on Catching His wind been so powerful ?

Let me say that God has a plan for us for in catching HIS WInd , its in moving us and keeping us in His ETERNAL Purpose for our lives.

Godly Legacy isn't built in a moment ,( but enjoy. The moments along the journey ) It's built through an enduring lifetime of Faithfulness .

It's built -when we choose integrity over compromise

It's built - when you choose prayer over distraction.

It's built - when we live in His holiness over dancing with temptation

It's built -when you choose obedience over convenience

Nobody drifts into Godly Legacy its built intentionally .

Grandma Tibbs

Edward and Shirley Tibbs

Damian and Brooke Tibbs

Quickly think about these people in Scripture

Noah - Built an Ark when nobody understood - Legacy

Abraham - Obeyed God without knowing what God was all doing and asking of him .

Moose's - Choose Gods People over Egypts Riches

Paul - Endured suffering for preaching the Gospel

LEGACY -

Their earthly lives ended but their impact still lives today

Why??

Because they lived for something Eternal - They Lived for the Lord .

They desired to deposite The Kingdom everywhere they went ,and I believe more importantly deposite the kingdom in everyone they meet .

So how do we actually go about leaving a Godly Legacy

The 3 - L's

Learn

Live

Lead

LEARN

Learn Christ Deeply

Before we can leave a Godly Legacy , we first know God Personally ,

You cannot pass down what you haven't experienced .

Paul Said this :

"I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead! I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us."

Philippians 3:10-14 NLT

The Enduring prize that Paul is talking about is building God's kingdom  
We can see through the life of Paul that Legacy begins with relationship  
Not Religion  
Not church attendance alone  
Not outward appearance  
True Godly legacy begins when someone truly Knows Jesus Christ -  
We must learn  
God's word  
God's Voice  
God's character  
God's ways

How do we do this by abiding in Him

“So you must remain in life-union with me, for I remain in life-union with you. For as a branch severed from the vine will not bear fruit, so your life will be fruitless unless you live your life intimately joined to mine. “I am the sprouting vine and you’re my branches. As you live in union with me as your source, fruitfulness will stream from within you—but when you live separated from me you are powerless.”

John 15:4-5 TPT

What we learn shapes what we leave behind -  
A lasting legacy starts in the Secret Place

LIVE -

We can't just talk about what we have learned we have to live it out . Even if its imperfect  
People need to see God in thre midst of our imperfection ,

“But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves. For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it.”

James 1:22-25 NLT

I think this is a good example ,Though is sheds a negative light on me , Lol  
When Stacy tells me that the trash is full she is not just wanting me to have the information that the recepticle that we temporarily store trash in our home is full , she wants me to do something with that information.

The Bible also says

“If you love me, obey my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you. No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you. Soon the world will no longer see me, but you will see me. Since I live, you also will live. When I am raised to life again, you will know that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them.”

John 14:15-21 NLT

I want to interject a quick thought here back to learning ,  
God has given us many great teachers , My wife says very frequently that the greatest untapped resource in the life of the believer is the Holy Spirit , and when it comes to learning ask the HOLY SPIRIT to teach you .

Legacy is when built when we live out our faith  
It's built when  
When we live out worship even in the hard seasons  
When we live faithfully under pressure  
When we live ( walk out ) forgiveness when it hurts  
When we live Holy in an unholy culture

Your Children as well as others may forget things you said but they will remember how you lived  
,  
Your Daily LIFE is writing your Legacy -  
Every Decision matters  
Every act of obedience matters  
Every unseen sacrifice matters ,

Only One Life C.T. Studd

Two little lines I heard one day, Traveling along life's busy way; Bringing conviction to my heart,  
And from my mind would not depart; Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for  
Christ will last.

Only one life, yes only one, Soon will its fleeting hours be done; Then, in 'that day' my Lord to  
meet, And stand before His Judgment seat; Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done  
for Christ will last.

Only one life, the still small voice, Gently pleads for a better choice  
Bidding me selfish aims to leave, And to God's holy will to cleave;  
Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last.

Only one life, a few brief years, Each with its burdens, hopes, and fears;  
Each with its days I must fulfill, living for self or in His will;  
Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last.

When this bright world would tempt me sore, When Satan would a victory score;  
When self would seek to have its way, Then help me Lord with joy to say;  
Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last.

Give me Father, a purpose deep, In joy or sorrow Thy word to keep;  
Faithful and true what e'er the strife, Pleasing Thee in my daily life;  
Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last.

Oh let my love with fervor burn, And from the world now let me turn;  
Living for Thee, and Thee alone, Bringing Thee pleasure on Thy throne;  
Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last.

Only one life, yes only one, Now let me say, "Thy will be done";  
And when at last I'll hear the call, I know I'll say 'twas worth it all";  
Only one life, 'twill soon be past, Only what's done for Christ will last.

## LEAD

A person who has and is learning and one who has and is living will also lead others . ( Hopefully leading and pointing other to Jesus )

Paul was building a kingdom Legacy by imparting into Timothy and requiring him to do the same !

"You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others."

2 Timothy 2:1-2 NIV

Real Leadership is not about position , It's about influence

You may never stand on a stage ,but we are all leading

We can lead our families

Friends

Co-workers

Young believers

Unsaved people to Christ

Hopefully we are leading them  
Closer to Jesus  
Deeper in worship  
Stronger in faith  
Bolder in truth

The greatest leader that ever lived ( Jesus )  
Washed peoples feet  
Loved people  
Spoke truth  
Gave His life away  
If we want a Legacy that lasts we must do the same

Our lives on Earth will one day end  
When that day comes  
Our Possessions will stay here  
Our Titles will stay here  
Our earthly achievements will stay here  
But our Eternal impact will continue to bring forth fruit leaving a lasting Legacy that shouts Jesus

The Legacy of my natural Father  
My Father was not perfect but pointed me to Jesus,  
I am not perfect ,but tried an still working at continually pointing my son to Jesus  
My Son  
His Son

This is why we  
Learn Jesus  
Live Jesus  
Lead others to Jesus

Closing challenge  
Ask yourself  
What am I Learning  
How am I living  
Who am I Leading

Father - ,Help us build lives that matter eternally . Teach us to learn your ways , live according to your truth ,and lead others towards Jesus Christ . Let our homes ,our worship,our service and our obedience leave a legacy that honors you and causes other to do the same . Use our lives for your eternal purpose .