

# IDENTIFYING BAPTISM & COMMUNION



# Identifying: A Generational Church



# PSALM 78:5-8 MSG

He planted a witness in Jacob, set his Word firmly in Israel,  
Then commanded our parents to teach it to their children,  
So the next generation would know, and all the generations  
to come—Know the truth and tell the stories so their children  
can trust in God, Never forget the works of God but keep his  
commands to the letter. Heaven forbid they should be like  
their parents, bullheaded and bad, A fickle and faithless  
bunch who never stayed true to God.

# PSALM 78:9 KJV

The children of Ephraim, being armed and carrying bows,  
turned back in the day of battle.

**Some turn back before the battle begins.**  
**Some turn back as soon as the battle is engaged.**  
**Some turn back when the first injury is received.**  
**Some turn back when the battle becomes long.**  
**Some turn back when the battle has no purpose.**

# PSALM 89:1 AMP

I will sing of the goodness and lovingkindness of the Lord forever; With my mouth I will make known Your faithfulness from generation to generation.

# LUKE 1:50 AMP

And His mercy is upon generation after generation toward those who stand in great awe of God and fear Him.

**“In order to disobey God, we must first diminish him. We will not adore a being who is our subordinate. We don’t stand in awe of what is beneath us. Once diminished, devotion to him becomes not only unnecessary but unreasonable.”**

– Noelle Mering



**Previous Generation Lie -  
God is not Real**

**Present Generation Lie -  
God is not Good**

1 Million people will leave the church this year (*Great Opportunity*)  
67% of kids will lose their faith in college (*Barna*)  
80% of people who attend evangelical churches do not  
have a biblical worldview (*Barna*)

**3 Ingredients of Deconstruction:**  
**Cynicism = Disillusionment**  
**Consumerism = Entitlement**  
**Humanism = Outrage**

# ACTS 2:17-18

In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

# JUDE 1:3

Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith.

**Contend (epagonizomai):  
to battle, fight, and defend  
with tenacity.**

# JUDE 1:4

For certain individuals whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into a license for immorality.

# JUDE 1:8

In the very same way, on the strength of their dreams these ungodly people pollute their own bodies, reject authority and heap abuse on celestial beings.



# JUDE 1:20

But you, dear friends, must build each other up in your most holy faith.

# NEHEMIAH 4:8 NASB1995

All of them conspired together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause a disturbance in it.

# NEHEMIAH 4:13-14

Therefore I stationed some of the people behind the lowest points of the wall at the exposed places, posting them by families, with their swords, spears and bows. After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, “Don’t be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes.”

# NEHEMIAH 4:17-18 LSB

Those who were rebuilding the wall and those who carried burdens took their load with one hand doing the work and the other holding a weapon. As for the builders, each wore his sword girded at his side as he built, while the trumpeter stood near me.

# NEHEMIAH 6:16

When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence, because they realized that this work had been done with the help of our God.

**Contending Faith =  
Building + Battling**

**To Build Forgiveness, Battle with Humility**

**To Build Legacy, Battle with Obedience**

**To Build Freedom, Battle with Power**

**To Build Relationships, Battle with Love**

**To Build Peace, Battle with Trust**

**To Build Hope, Battle with Faith**

**To Build Identity, Battle with Truth**

**To Build Joy, Battle with Gratitude**

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What positive spiritual values did you inherit from your family?
2. What spiritual values are you trying to pass on to your family?
3. How have you seen God's faithfulness within your family generations?
4. In what ways are you contending for the faith of your family?
5. In what ways are you "building" and "battling" for yourself and family?



