

Next Generation

There must be a transfer of information, knowledge, and experience to the next generation. There is a significant risk when a generation of people forget God. When a generation forgets God and a strategic transfer does not happen, each generation will suffer because of what's lost. What are you transferring to the next generation? In any of the following scenarios be it positive, negative, or indifferent, something is being transferred. The transfer to the next generation occurs on four levels: mentally, physically, spiritually, and socially.

1) Three Generational Thinkers

- a) 2 Timothy 1:5 Paul calls to remembrance the genuine faith of Timothy's grandmother Lois, his mother Eunice and is persuaded is in you (Timothy) also.
- b) Genuine Faith as opposed to phony faith was transferred to Timothy.
- c) Paul had to have been around this family (socially) to have witnessed how they lived their lives to be able to say that their faith was genuine.
- d) Psalm 127:4-5 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth. 5 Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed but shall speak with their enemies in the gate."

2) Generation of None

- a) The Pew Research Center used the term "nones" which refers to religiously unaffiliated Americans. The growth in the number of nones is largely driven by generational replacement, with a third of adults under 30 having no religious affiliation. Retention for nones has risen over time, with nearly two-thirds of people who are raised as nones still being nones in adulthood. A high percentage of younger members of the Millennial generation are religious "nones".
- b) Hosea 4:6 "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; Because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children."
- c) Jeremiah 3:21 "A voice was heard on the desolate heights, Weeping and supplications of the children of Israel. For they have perverted their way; they have forgotten the Lord their God."

3) Paul invested in Timothy. 2 Timothy 1:6, (Further Teaching)

- a) He knew him well enough to see that he suffered from timidity.
- b) He encouraged and reminded him that he needed to stir up the gift of God which was in him.
- c) He transferred to Timothy by laying hands on him.
- d) Have a spirit of power, love, and a sound mind.

4) Generational Atmosphere

- a) Help your children develop a system of belief and trust in God.
- b) The formative years are critical to help your children develop a belief and trust in God.
- c) 2 Timothy 2:2 "And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also."
- d) What atmosphere (mentally, spiritually, physically, and socially) are you creating around you and what is the next generation learning from your example?

5) Conclusion

Three generational thinking involves some risk. However, it is a good thing because the seeds planted into the person will bring a harvest over time. We must empower them with information and knowledge so that God's Kingdom may continue to be built, advanced, and manifested in the earth.