

Living Word Fellowship Church

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Introduction

To be a grandparent who is committed to living out the principles of God in their lives produces long life (Psalm 128:5-6) and this is God's decision so that He can extend His righteous nature to grandchildren because this was His plan from the beginning (Genesis 1:26-28). *"But the lovingkindness of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children."* (Ps 103:17; NASU). To begin with, long life is a gift from God (Psalm 90:10) just like a child is a gift from God (Psalm 127:3). *"As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, or if due to strength, eighty years, yet their pride is but labor and sorrow; For soon it is gone and we fly away."* (Psalm 90:10; NASU)

Growing old does not mean that we do nothing; that is the mindset of our culture; *"Now Joshua was old and advanced in years when the Lord said to him, 'You are old and advanced in years, and very much of the land remains to be possessed.'"* (Joshua 13:1; NASU) Satan wants to take all that God can do through a senior person and park it so that he has a greater chance of destroying a younger generation. Teaching and guiding a younger generation was always God's plan as we would see in this lesson. Renewing our minds is where the transformation takes place for a powerful experience of God (Romans 12:2). *"They will still yield fruit in old age; They shall be full of sap and very green, to declare that the Lord is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him."* (Psalm 92:14-15; NASU)

Lesson Outline

A. God's Intends to pass down His Legacy to Another Generation:

1. The line of Shem was the line God established through Adam and Eve to replace Abel. It is from this line whom Abram descended. In this genealogy, we can see the importance of lineage through grandparents. Grandparents have always been the anchor that holds a family together:
 - a) *"Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife; and they went out together from Ur of the Chaldeans in order to enter the land of Canaan; and they went as far as Haran, and settled there. The days of Terah were two hundred and five years; and Terah died in Haran."* (Gen 11:31-32; NASU)
2. He desire is to extend His legacy into the hearts of grandchildren so His history becomes a guide for a great future:
 - a) *"Only give heed to yourself and keep your soul diligently, so that you do not forget the things which your eyes have seen and they do not depart from your heart all the days of your life; but **make them known to your sons and your grandsons**. *"Remember the day you stood before the Lord your God at Horeb, when the Lord said to me, 'Assemble the people to Me, that I may let them hear My words so they may learn to fear Me (walk in wisdom; Proverbs 1:7; 9:8) all the days they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children.'* (Deuteronomy 4:9-11; NASU)*

- ☐ God said to make them known 'to your sons' because sons are the primary teachers (mothers can teach but the responsibility for teaching a child rests on the father; Timothy's mother and grandmother as an example; 2 Timothy 1:5), and they are primarily responsible for the disciplining of their children (Ephesians 6:4; Hebrews 12:7).
- b) What God was to communicate through the prophecy of Joel He wanted to be passed down from generation to generation. *"Tell your sons about it, And let your sons tell their sons, and their sons the next generation."* (Joel 1:3; NASU)
- c) Parents and grandparents did not just shape Timothy for ministry (Acts 16:1-3; something the Apostle Paul could build on; 2 Timothy 3:13-15), they also nurtured his heart; *"For I am mindful of the sincere faith within you, which first dwelt in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am sure that it is in you as well. For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline."* (2 Timothy 1:5-7; NASU)
3. When grandparents fail to do what is right in the sight of God, it can become **a snare** to generations to follow:
- a) *"Then the men of Israel said to Gideon, "Rule over us, both you and your son, also your son's son, for you have delivered us from the hand of Midian." But Gideon said to them, "I will not rule over you, nor shall my son rule over you; the Lord shall rule over you." Yet Gideon said to them, "I would request of you, that each of you give me an earring from his spoil." (For they had gold earrings, because they were Ishmaelites.) They said, "We will surely give them." So they spread out a garment, and every one of them threw an earring there from his spoil. The weight of the gold earrings that he requested was 1,700 shekels of gold, besides the crescent ornaments and the pendants and the purple robes which were on the kings of Midian, and besides the neck bands that were on their camels' necks. Gideon made it into an ephod, and placed it in his city, Ophrah, and all Israel played the harlot with it there, so that it became a snare to Gideon and his household."* (Judge 8:22-27; NASU)
- b) *"Then the inhabitants of Jerusalem made Ahaziah, his youngest son, king in his place, for the band of men who came with the Arabs to the camp had slain all the older sons. So Ahaziah the son of Jehoram king of Judah began to reign. Ahaziah was twenty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned one year in Jerusalem. And his mother's name was Athaliah, the granddaughter of Omri (1 Kings 16:16-30). He also walked in the ways of the house of Ahab, for his mother was his counselor to do wickedly. He did evil in the sight of the Lord like the house of Ahab, for they were his counselors after the death of his father, to his destruction."* (2 Chron 22:1-4; 2 Kings 8:25-27; NASU)

B. God Wants us to Extend His Blessings to Our Grandchildren:

1. When righteousness prevails, and God's promises come through, He intends for us to extend that to another generation:
 - a) *"When Israel saw Joseph's sons, he said, 'Who are these?' Joseph said to his father, 'They are my sons, whom God has given me here.' So he said, 'Bring them to me, please, that I may bless them.' Now the eyes of Israel were so dim from age that he could not see. Then Joseph brought them close to him, and he kissed them and embraced them. Israel said to Joseph, 'I never expected to see your face, and behold, God has let me see your children as well.' Then Joseph took them from his knees, and bowed with his face to the ground. Joseph took them both, Ephraim with his right hand toward Israel's left, and Manasseh with his left hand toward Israel's right, and brought them close to him. But Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it on the head of Ephraim, who was the younger, and his left hand on Manasseh's head, crossing his hands, although Manasseh was the firstborn. He blessed Joseph, and said, 'The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has been my shepherd all my life to this day, the angel who has redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads; and may my name live on in them, and the names of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and may they grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.'" (Gen 48:8-16; NASU)*

C. Being a grandparent is to pass down financial security from one generation to the next:

1. *"A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, and the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous." (Prov 13:22; NASU)*
2. *Then the king said, "And where is your master's son?" And Ziba said to the king, "Behold, he is staying in Jerusalem, for he said, 'Today the house of Israel will restore the kingdom of my father to me.'" So the king said to Ziba, "Behold, all that belongs to Mephibosheth is yours." And Ziba said, "I prostrate myself; let me find favor in your sight, O my lord, the king!" (2 Sam 16:3-4; NASU)*
 - a) *David said to him, "Do not fear, for I will surely show kindness to you for the sake of your father Jonathan, and will restore to you all the land of your grandfather Saul; and you shall eat at my table regularly." Again he prostrated himself and said, "What is your servant, that you should regard a dead dog like me?" (2 Sam 9:7-8; NASU)*
 - b) *Mephibosheth was Jonathan's son the grandson of Saul (2 Samuel 9:8; 19:24).*
3. *"In the beginning of the reign of Zedekiah the son of Josiah, king of Judah, this word came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying — thus says the Lord to me — "Make for yourself bonds and yokes and put them on your neck, and send word to the king of Edom, to the king of Moab, to the king of the sons of Ammon, to the king of Tyre and to the king of Sidon by the messengers who come to Jerusalem to Zedekiah king of Judah. "Command them to go to their masters, saying, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, thus you shall say to your masters, "A I have made the earth, the men and the beasts which are on the face of the earth by My great power and by My outstretched arm, and I will give it to the one who is pleasing in My sight. "Now I have given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, My servant, and I have given him also the wild animals of the field to serve him. "All*

*the nations shall serve him and **his son and his grandson** until the time of his own land comes; then many nations and great kings will make him their servant.* (Jeremiah 27:1-7; NASU)

Conclusion

I would like to know that whenever my days are done that, I can say two things; “I have fought a good fight of the faith, and I am finish.” Also, I did not just die, because I have finished; I rested from my labors, not just die. Then I would like to hear from my master; “*Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.*’ (Matthew 25:21, 23; Luke 19:17)

Remember this passage all the days of your lives; “Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord; seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.” (2 Peter 1:2-4; NASU)