



Week 6 –Strong Families Leave a Legacy

The dictionary defines "legacy" as something handed down from an ancestor or predecessor, or from the past. The ancient Israelites were constantly aware that God was asking them to influence the next generation. The Bible verses below demonstrate this principle.

"He commanded our forefathers to teach their children, so the next generation would know, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children." Psalm 78:5-6

"Do not forsake me, oh God, till I declare your power to the next generation." Psalm 71:18

One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts. Psalm 145:4

The purpose of this week session is to help you think through how you might add value to members of the next generation -- -- and your own.

Child development specialists tell us that, ideally, every young person will know five older people who have significantly influenced their life. Before starting this week's discussion, think about the people who have most influenced you. What role did they play in your life, and in what way did they influence your beliefs and your decisions?

| Role | Persons name | How they influenced you |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Father | | |
| Mother | | |
| Teacher | | |
| Coach | | |
| Church | | |
| Youth leader | | |
| Counselor | | |
| Grandparent | | |
| Older brother or sister | | |



Week 6 –Strong Families Leave a Legacy

Now, think about the other side of the equation: who are you influencing? Are you one of the five people impacting the lives of some young person? Fill in the names of three or more young people you have significantly influenced or are currently influencing. Then indicate your role in their lives (i.e., their parent, counselor, youth leader, etc.) Finally, how are you influencing their beliefs, decisions, and the course of their lives?

| Persons name | Your role | How you influence the person |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Read the verses on page one of this discussion guide and summarize what these verses teach us to do for the generations that follow us.

Read Acts 13:36- What are we called to do in our own generation? What are some ways you can do this?

Read Proverbs 17:17- Tell a bout a time when someone stood by you and loved you through a difficult time. How did their love and their actions affect you?

Read Proverbs 27:17- Tell about someone that "sharpens" you and helps you become a better person.

On a scale of 1 to 10 (with 10 being the best), how well do you think you have done and making a difference in your own generation?

What is one specific way in which you can increase your influence on the next generation or on your peers?