

Setting a Legacy

Joshua 23

Passing the baton is one of the most difficult moments in a relay race. So many things can go wrong. That expression, "Passing the baton," also refers to the continuation of a legacy.



It is estimated that there were about twenty years separating chapters 22-23. Joshua acknowledges that he is old and that he realizes he will soon die (14). He will live to be 110 (24:29). The story of Joshua begins as a slave in Egypt and ends as a freeman in the Promise land. God has been good to Israel.

And, realizing that he will not be with them, Joshua calls a meeting with the leaders (2). He sets forth some direction for the nation after he is gone. This presents to us the powerful lesson of establishing a legacy. What will my family look like after I am gone? What will this congregation look like after I am gone?

- A. There are many forms of legacies
 - foundations that are established to fund colleges and organizations
 - spiritual legacies is what Joshua was focused upon

B. The Legacy of Israel

Three Things To Help Israel

- (1) F_____ of God: God k_____ His word (14)
- (2) G_____ of God: God f_____ for you (3, 10)
- (3) E_____ of Joshua: faithful and committed

1. Promise the leaders were to Emphasize to the Nation

- o_____ God (6): be very firm to keep and do all that is written
- c_____ to the Lord (8)
- w_____ with the Lord (10)
- l_____ the Lord (11): take diligent heed

(a) if you do, the Lord will bless you and keep you in the land (5)

3. Warning to be understood

- if you do not obey the Lord, He will judge you and remove you from the land (12, 13,16)
- God understood the power of pagan _____ (7, 12) - see Ps 1

C. The Legacy of Us

Generations

Greatest (1923-1944)
 Baby boomers (1945-1964)
 Gen X (1965-1980)
 Millennials (Gen Y) (1981-1996)
 Gen Z (1997-2012)
 Gen A (2013-present)



Three Basic Facts

1. Each generation is _____
2. Each generation faces unique _____ and difficult _____
3. Each generation faces challenges _____ with other generations

The Steps to take to leave a Spiritual Legacy with your family:

- The words of Jesus ring so true here (Mt 16:26)
- We must be _____ involved
Be very _____ (6)
_____ to the Lord (8)
Take _____ heed (11)
- We must engage in deep spiritual _____
Josh 4:6-7 (Deut 6:4-9, 20-25)
- We must leave powerful _____
Heb 13:7 (11:4)
- We must equip them with the _____ to carry on
Eph 4:11
- We must _____ them and give them _____

What are some things the next generation needs to learn?

What does the next generation want to see from the previous generation?

In what ways can one generation hinder or hurt the next generation?

