

## Leaving a Spiritual Legacy: Investing in the Next Generation

### Word

#### Scripture Reference

Psalm 78:1-8

#### Discussion Questions

1. What kind of legacy could parents leave to their children?
2. Since you, Christian parents, are recipients of a rich heritage, you have a sacred responsibility to leave the same legacy to future generations. The family is meant to be the primary learning community. Read Deuteronomy 6:6-8 and Ephesians 6:4. What do these passages say to parents on how to teach their children? Discuss how these instructions can be practically applied in life. Share examples of how parents provoke their children to anger. Instead of provocation, how should parents bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord?
3. Read Psalm 78:9-11 and Judges 2:10. It only takes one generation for all the spiritual gains to go down the drain. In order to prevent this disastrous thing from happening, take note of the following legacies that parents can leave to their children.
  - a. The Legacy of the Knowledge of God. What should not be hidden from your children according to verse 4? How can parents teach their children about who God is? Share with the group how as a parent, you demonstrate to your children who God is. Or if you are not a parent yet, share how you think parents can demonstrate in their lives who God is.
  - b. The Legacy of the Fear of God. Read Proverbs 1:7-9. What does the fear of the Lord mean? Discuss how parents should teach their children that God is the only One worthy of worship and absolute obedience. He is to be taken seriously. Unfortunately, a lot of people don't. How does it show in today's culture that people don't actually take God seriously? How should this be remedied?
  - c. The Legacy of Sincere Faith in God. Read 2 Timothy 1:5. Sincere means "without hypocrisy". It means to obey God wholeheartedly, which is best taught through life. How was Timothy's faith in God influenced by his mother and grandma? What are some practical ways that parents can be sincere faith influencers to their children?
  - d. The Legacy of Sober Judgment. Read Proverbs 31:1-9. This passage is a very good exhortation of a mother to her adult son. Enumerate the things that the mom taught King Lemuel. How can you teach your children to look beyond themselves and learn to live for God by serving others?

### Walk

Celebrate motherhood! As a mom, you have the potential of influencing the lives of your children for Jesus Christ like no other can. Passing on the faith necessitates owning the faith first. You cannot give what you do not have. Intensify your grip on your faith. As a mom, what do you appreciate about motherhood? As an adult child, what do you appreciate about your mother? Pause for a few minutes and thank the Lord for your mom (and dad as well) to appreciate the legacies that they have passed on to you.

### Worship & Prayer

*Dear Heavenly Father, we thank you for those who have left a godly legacy to us. It has inspired us to walk faithfully in our spiritual journey and helped us grow in spiritual maturity. In the same way, we pray that you will help us leave a godly legacy to those who come behind us. May our actions, speech, relationships, stewardship, faith, and everything in us and about us leave footprints that will lead others closer to You. In Jesus' name, Amen.*