

A LEGACY OF FAITH

ABOUT THIS WEEK

This week we will be looking at how to build a legacy of faith, and for whom.

ITEMS NEEDED

- Prayer Journal
- Bibles
- Pens

CHECKLIST BEFORE YOUR GROUP ARRIVES

- Pray for the meeting
- Print & Read Discussion Guide
- Clean meeting room
- Clean bathroom
- Refreshments (optional)
- Front door cracked open

OPENING (5-7 MIN)

Briefly welcome everyone and say: We just celebrated the 50th anniversary of our Sanctuary construction at St. Mark. So, today's icebreaker should be pretty straightforward—

WHAT YEAR DID YOU START ATTENDING ST. MARK, AND WHO BROUGHT YOU?

Say: Today, we're going to be talking about how we can follow the builders before us and leave our own legacy of faith that lasts forever.

OPENING PRAYER (1 MIN)

Say: But first, can someone start us off with a brief prayer for our time together?

After the prayer say: It's kind of hard to talk about leaving a legacy of faith for the future without talking about future generations. Whether it's our kids, our grandkids, or kids at church, the next generation matters! Today, we're going to look at four ways we can influence the next generation.

STEP 1 TO LEAVING A LEGACY (5-7 MIN)

First, we've got two verses to read.

CAN SOMEONE READ PROVERBS 22:6 AND SOMEONE ELSE READ DEUTERONOMY 6:5-9?

WHAT DO THESE VERSES TELL US TO DO TO LEAVE A LEGACY OF FAITH?

WHO COMES TO MIND WHEN YOU HEAR THESE VERSES AND IS IT ENCOURAGING OR CONVICTING?

*Hosts:
The answer we're looking for here is "teaching."*

STEP 2 TO LEAVING A LEGACY (5-7 MIN)

After a discussion, say: There are still two other ways we can leave a legacy of faith.

CAN SOMEONE READ PHILIPPIANS 4:8-9 AND SOMEONE ELSE READ 1 CORINTHIANS 11:1?

WHAT DO THESE VERSES TELL US TO DO TO LEAVE A LEGACY OF FAITH?

*Hosts:
The answer we're looking for here is "demonstrating."*

ONCE AGAIN, LET'S ASK, ARE THESE VERSES ENCOURAGING OR CONVICTING?

STEP 3 TO LEAVING A LEGACY (5-7 MIN)

After a discussion, say: The third way we can leave a legacy of faith is something we see from the Apostle Paul who took a young man under his wing and taught him how to be a pastor.

CAN SOMEONE READ 2 TIMOTHY 1:1-5 ALOUD FOR US?

HOW DOES VERSE 3 TELL US WE CAN LEAVE A LEGACY OF FAITH FOR THE NEXT GENERATION?

*Hosts:
The answer we're looking for here is "praying."*

LET'S BRAINSTORM- WHAT DO YOU THINK PAUL SPECIFICALLY PRAYED FOR TIMOTHY?

HOW IS THAT DIFFERENT OR SIMILAR TO YOUR PRAYERS FOR THE NEXT GENERATION?

STEP 4 TO LEAVING A LEGACY (5-7 MIN)

After a discussion, say: Let's look at the final way we can leave a legacy of faith.

CAN SOMEONE READ PROVERBS 13:22 ALOUD FOR US?

After the reading, say: Few of us have generational wealth, but when you give to the church or help it build for the future, you are investing in future generations and, as we just read, "leaving an inheritance."

*Hosts:
The answer we're looking for here is "giving."*

HOW DOES THIS CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK OF YOUR OFFERING AT CHURCH?

CLOSING QUESTION (3 MIN)

After a discussion, say: So we just looked at four ways we can leave a legacy of faith- teaching, demonstrating, praying, and giving.

WHICH ONE HAS GOD IMPRESSED ON YOUR HEART DURING OUR DISCUSSION?

GOSPEL REMINDER (1 MIN)

Say: As we've heard instructions for the next generation, it's likely you've felt a tinge of guilt that you haven't done enough, or you could be doing more. This is a good spot to remember a couple things.

First, Jesus has done all of these things to leave a legacy of faith– and perfectly! He taught us the faith, he demonstrated the faith for us, he prayed for our faith, and he gave his own life for our faith. He will care for the next generation just as he’s cared for you.

Second, remember that God loves you and forgives you and works through your weakness and failures. It’s better to do something imperfectly than to do nothing perfectly, and when we mess up, his grace is greater!

ANNOUNCEMENTS TO SHARE (2 MIN)

Say: Before we close in prayer today, a few quick announcements:

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES – Help collect items for kids in other countries this Christmas by picking up one or more of the boxes in the church lobby. Filled boxes need to be returned by November 13.

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP & PIE – Join us Wednesday, November 22 at 6:30 for Thanksgiving worship followed by pie.

“CUP OF GOOD CHEER” WOMEN’S ADVENT EVENT – Saturday, December 2, 10:00. To register go to stmark.net featured events.

CLOSING (5-7 MIN)

Say: Tonight, we’re going to put into practice one of the things we talked about tonight by praying for the youth and family ministry at St. Mark.

So first, are there any prayer requests you can think of for them?

After writing down the prayer requests for the Youth & Family Ministry, ask: Finally, are there any personal prayer requests?

Write your group’s prayer requests in your journal. Then, close the group in prayer.