

**Title:** Reaching Four Generations for Christ

**Passage:** Deuteronomy 4:9

## EXPOSITION

### Introduction

Question:

Do you know what the Bible says about being a Christian grandparent?

Answer:

Deuteronomy 4:9

"Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children

- Key phrase: "Make them known to your children and your children's children"
  - Key word: "and"
    - Clearly points to grandchildren

## KEY DUTIES

### I. Watch Yourself

*"Only take care, and keep your soul diligently"*

- The person in your generation to be most concerned about is yourself.
- Don't forget what has happened:
  - In Scripture
  - With yourselves
- Culture/Temptation: After previously serving, I can check out and "enjoy" retirement.
  - Truth: we are to serve God completely until we pass. You are "re-deployed" to minister.

### II. A Past Duty - Teach Your Children

*"Make them known to your children"*

- Parents: The primary duty to reach children for Christ (not the church)

### III. An Ongoing Duty - Teach Your Grandchildren

*"Make them known to ... your children's children"*

- GrandParents: The ongoing duty to reach their grandchildren for Christ
- "Make them known" = Teach/Talk/Dialogue = Action.
- Culture: You have raised your kids and let your kids raise their children. Don't interfere.
  - A silent grandparent concerning things of the soul is a spiritually neutralized grandparent
- Truth: You are to be active and be involved in your grandchildren's training.

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.

- Question: What in your grandchildren is your greatest joy - their relationship with the Lord? (Or in sports, academics, etc.)
- "Walking in the truth" = evidence of faith in Christ.
  - Holiness (not just happy or healthy) is key
- Our greatest concern should be in someone's soul.

### ***Why? What's so important about the soul?***

#### ***A. The soul exists for eternity***

Matthew 16:26

For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?

#### ***B. Every day Jesus is seeking the souls of grandchildren***

Luke 19:10

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

Matthew 28:19-20

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

#### ***C. Every day Satan is seeking the souls of grandchildren***

1 Peter 5:8

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

- we must rise and prepare others for the very real present and coming attacks.

### ***Three key words that need to define you from this day forward: INTENTIONAL CHRISTIAN GRANDPARENT***

#### **IV. Think Future Generations**

- live for family that we will not meet on earth.
- Through your teaching, life, and influence on others.
- Talk - Speak - Teach

Psalms 78

- Example of what happened.

Psalms 78:1-4, 6-7 (command/calling)

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth! I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us. We

will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done...that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments;

- But the remainder of the Psalm shows that Israel, in fact, failed to do so.

Psalms 78:9-10

The Ephraimites, armed with the bow, turned back on the day of battle. They did not keep God's covenant, but refused to walk according to his law.

## **V. Bless All**

Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

- Express blessings to your loved ones.
- Express the Gospel of Jesus Christ to your loved ones.

## **Resources**

- Legacy Coalition
  - [www.legacycoalition.com](http://www.legacycoalition.com)
- Grand Monday Nights webinar (5pm PST)
  - <https://legacycoalition.com/grand-monday-nights/>
- Podcasts
  - <https://legacycoalition.com/podcast/>
- Grandparenting National Summit Conference (October 22-23) - will be simulcast as well.

## **Psalm 71:18**

***So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.***