

There Arose Another Generation

Dec 28, 2014

There Arose Another Generation After Them

Judges 2:7-13 KJV And the people **served** the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works of the LORD, that he did for Israel. (8) And Joshua the son of Nun, the **servant** of the LORD, died, being an hundred and ten years old. (9) And they buried him in the border of his inheritance in Timnathheres, in the mount of Ephraim, on the north side of the hill Gaash. (10) And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and ***there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel.*** (11) And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD, and **served** Baalim: (12) And they forsook the LORD God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the LORD to anger. (13) And they forsook the LORD, and **served** Baal and Ashtaroth.

The Next Generation is Constantly Arising

1. The generation after Joshua did not know the Lord - **THUS** did not serve the Lord
What will be the outcome of the generation that is following you?

The Lord has a plan for securing the next generation (4 generations) (Ps 78)

2. The goal is they will set their hope in God - remain steadfast and set their heart aright
3. The method - fathers to make them known to their children
4. Sons, fathers, grandfathers, great-grandfathers

Psalms 78:5-8 KJV For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children: (6) That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children: (7) ***That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments:*** (8) And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not steadfast with God.

Timothy - raised up as Another Generation in his biological family

The Faith of the Parents

- 2 Timothy 1:5 NIV I am reminded of your sincere faith, ***which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice*** and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.

The Emphasis of Scripture

- 2 Timothy 3:14-15 NIV But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, (15) and ***how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures***, which are able to make you wise for

salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. (16) All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, (17) so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Three Things Fathers and Mothers Can Do

- 1) Teach your children & move them toward keeping the commandments
- 2) Parents should have your own faith relationship with Jesus
- 3) Place an emphasis of Scripture with children

Timothy was also raised up as “Another Generation” in a spiritual relationship

- 1 Timothy 1:2 KJV Unto Timothy, ***my own son in the faith***: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

The same “generation to generation” concept in the spiritual “family” (4 generations)

- 2 Timothy 2:2 KJV And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.
 - Paul --- Timothy --- Commit to faithful men --- Who will teach others

The Task of Next Generation Leadership

One of the tasks the LORD has put on my plate is to raise up leaders; and to build into the culture of our church a vision for constantly raising up others.

This requires:

- 1) **People willing** to be raised up and assume roles of leadership
- 2) **Current leaders** willing to train, trust, delegate and release
- 3) **A congregation** that has grace to embrace new leaders, to pray for them, to give them grace to grow, to learn and to make mistakes

The culture of raising up others should extend to every ministry and every age group.

Examples

- Jeff is teaching Josiah how to run the sound system
- Nate is teaching Brianna, Jay, Maddison, Josiah and Caleb how to run the video equipment
- We are always looking to add people to the worship team - young and old
- Ted is working with some of the older teens in youth group to develop leadership skills
- Various people are doing discipleship groups, & small group fellowships
- Jerry and Bob are taking on a role as pastoral care in visiting the sick and those in hospitals
- Sunday school teachers can bring in a helper to groom them for future ministry
- Some of the youth are teaching Sunday School and nursery and serving on the worship team
- New elders and deacons are needed as well

Training of next generation leaders is a biblical concept

Moses had Joshua

- Exodus 24:13 NIV Then ***Moses set out with Joshua his aide***, and Moses went up on the mountain of God.
- Joshua 1:1-2 NIV ***After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua*** son of Nun, Moses' aide: (2) "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them--to the Israelites.

Paul worked with Timothy

- Acts 16:1-3 NIV Paul came to Derbe and then to Lystra, where a disciple named Timothy lived, whose mother was Jewish and a believer but whose father was a Greek. (2) The believers at Lystra and Iconium spoke well of him. (3) ***Paul wanted to take him along*** on the journey, so he circumcised him because of the Jews who lived in that area, for they all knew that his father was a Greek.
- Philippians 2:19-20 NIV (19) I hope in the Lord Jesus ***to send Timothy to you soon***, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you. (20) I have no one else like him, who will show genuine concern for your welfare.

Timothy was told to push it down to the Next Generation (4 generations)

- 2 Timothy 2:2 KJV And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same ***commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.***

What we are doing at ACC

We understand the need and the mandate --- We have a great team of leaders, great diversity and gifting, humility and respect for one another and an awesome working relationship. (many have worked together for 30-40 years)

- But if we don't press leadership down, one day we will die and there will be no Joshua
- One day we will ride off in the chariot like Elijah and there will be no Elisha to pick up the cloak
- There will be no Timothy to multiply the work that can be done

We began a leadership training class in July 2013 (nearly 1 ½ years ago)

The goal was to teach some principles that any person would benefit from, but more than that the goal was to begin to identify men with a desire to serve). The ideal mix in leadership is to have both ***a calling*** [Acts 20:28] from the LORD as well as ***a personal desire***. [1 Tim 3:1] One without the other creates a miserable scenario.

- From the leadership training group 5 men have expressed a desire to to help shepherd the flock
- We have worked with them individually with evaluations and discussion around character, doctrine and marriage

- Now we are setting them into an intern leadership position to help them gain practical experience and to determine if the calling is there along with the desire.

What we will be doing:

- We will include these men in our ***elder's meetings*** so they get an idea of some of the inner workings of our decision making and how we carry the burden of the work of the Lord.
- We will give them ***responsibility and opportunities*** to grow in the area of shepherding the flock
- We will continue to ***mentor them and provide feedback*** on areas of growth as they learn to adjust to assuming greater responsibility
- And finally we will determine together if this is indeed a task or work they not only ***desire*** but are ***called*** to, and ***willing to commit*** to
- Eventually we will lay hands upon them to release them to ***serve as elders*** in the church
- This process is beginning immediately

The 5 men are:

Timothy Butler -- Andrew DeMuth -- Nathan Hochstetler -- David Moss -- Brian Nottingham

What can you do?

- Pray for them and us
- Give them grace to grow, learn and make mistakes
 - Can you imagine Jesus working with the 12 - and even in the end some doubted just before He ascended into heaven
- Help us work through the process as we seek to identify and raise up new leaders
- Seek the Lord to determine if you are called into leadership

There Is Another Generation Arising