

Will the Next Generation Follow God?

Last week we looked at the principle that God calls His people to live out a comprehensive, exclusive and whole-hearted obedience to God. This was what God expected from the nation of Israel as they lived in the Promised Land. It was their covenant responsibility before God. Though we do not live under the old covenant, this kind of obedience is the only thing that makes sense for us in light of whom God is and what He has done for us. God wants such obedience from us AND He wants this from the next generation and the next and the next. Today, we are returning to Deuteronomy 6 to focus on what this passage says about passing on God's commandments to future generations.

Opening Discussion: Other than a parent, who is one other person that had a significant influence on your life growing up? How did s/he influence you?

Read Deuteronomy 6:1-7; 20-25

1. What instructions does Moses give regarding the next generation(s)?
2. Why do you think there is such a strong emphasis in this passage on teaching the commandments and statutes of God to children?
3. How do verses 5 and 6 connect to what Moses says about passing on the faith to the next generation?
4. What picture does verse 7 paint of an instructional approach with our children? What are some practical applications of this?
5. If you are a parent, what do you sense God saying to you through this passage? What is one thing that you could do to grow in this area?

6. How should the church as a whole “hear” this passage?

7. If you are not a parent or your kids are grown, how can you have an impact on the next generation?

Note from our NextGen Folks: Serving in the NextGen Ministries at Faith does not mean you have to be a small group leader or communicator. Currently, we’re focusing on the welcoming component of our ministry. If you feel God stirring something inside of you, and you’re unsure of what you want to do, we’d love to chat and explore some different roles that might be a good fit. We’d LOVE to have you join our team! If you have questions, please contact Chris Barker at chris@faithmanhattan.org.