



## 2019 August Series: All in the Family

### Message #2: It Runs in the Family

#### Getting the Nod:

#### Happy Grandparents Day!!!

#### Grandparent Quotes:

- Grandmas are moms with lots of frosting.
- Grandfathers are just antique little boys.
- When grandparents enter the door, discipline flies out the window.
- Grandmas never run out of hugs or cookies.
- If I had known how wonderful it would be to have grandchildren, I'd have had them first.
- My grandkids believe I'm the oldest thing in the world. And after two or three hours with them, I believe it.
- An hour with your grandchildren can make you feel young again. Anything longer than that, and you start to age quickly.
- Definition of a Grandmother - a wonderful mother with lots of practice.
- Grandparents are just like a piece of string – they're handy to have around and can easily be wrapped around the fingers of their grandchildren.
- No cowboy was ever faster on the draw than a grandparent pulling a baby picture out of a wallet.

**Joke about the 75-year-old who married the 25-year-old woman:** One day, Grandpa Henry was sitting in the park with a 75 year old man. Henry discovered that this other 75-year-old Grandpa had just married a 25-year-old woman. Grandpa Henry was amazed. "Your wife must be very attractive", he said. "No, not really," replied the older man. Henry thought for a moment and then he said, "Then she must be a great cook and housekeeper." "No, she's not much for that, either, said the man." Henry thought for a moment and then asked, "Then why did you marry her?" The 75-year-old Grandpa yawned and said, "**Because she can drive at night.**" *You know... the older we get... the more our priorities change!!! Like these stats...*

#### Grandparents, if you ever entertained the idea that you're not important... just listen to these Statistics:

- 6.1 million – is the number of grandparents whose grandchildren younger than 18 live with them. {Source: 2006 American Community Survey}
- 2.5 million – is the number of grandparents responsible for most of the basic needs (i.e., food, shelter, clothing) of one or more of the grandchildren who live with them.
- 918,000 – the number of grandparents responsible for caring for their grandchildren for at least the past five years.
- 5.7 million – is the number of children living with a grandparent; these children comprise 8% of all children in the United States. {Source: Families and Living Arrangements: 2006} <

**Transition:** We live in a culture that promotes youthfulness and denies the importance of the elderly. But the Bible calls us to instead honor the aged. NLT | Le 19:32 "**Stand up in the presence of the elderly and show respect for the aged. Fear your God. I am the LORD.**"

## Connecting Us:



**Illustration of John Glenn's Second Flight:** On **October 29, 1998**, the space shuttle **Discovery** launched with a **seven-member crew**. **One of them, John Glenn**, was 77 years old. **John Glenn had been in space before. In fact, in 1962** he became the first American to orbit the Earth. To put it in perspective, the last time John Glenn blasted into the sky in a spacecraft, the towering political figures were Nikita Khrushchev and John F. Kennedy. **A few days before the flight, John Glenn scolded 100 reporters gathered at the launch pad for the crew's practice countdown. They were focusing too much on his age**, he said, rather than the missions' scientific merits. Glenn wanted the country to see the mission's merits... not his own. He was still a contributor to the mission.

**Why was there a fuss about Glenn's age?** As a TIME magazine piece began, "This is no country for old men." That sentiment seems to reflect the attitude of our culture. Just hit age 65 and it is time to retire, to collect Social Security, to move aside and let younger, more energetic people step in. **But I believe there is great worth in grandparenting!**

**Every generation matters!!! Young... middle-age... and elderly. Today we want to show our gratitude to you, our grandparents. And how influential are those who have lived the longest among us? Just consider the generational effects we see in the Book of Genesis...**

### Look at the Generational Effects in Genesis:

- 1. Look at what Adam and Eve passed down.** NLT | Ro 5:12 **When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.**
- 2. Look at what the flood had to fix.** NKJV | Ge 6:12 **So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.**
- 3. Look at what Abraham passed down to Isaac.** NLT | Ge 26:7 **When the men who lived there asked Isaac about his wife, Rebekah, he said, "She is my sister." He was afraid to say, "She is my wife." He thought, "They will kill me to get her, because she is so beautiful."**
- 4. Look at how Laban treated his nephew.** Jacob worked seven years to marry Rachel... to only be deceived by Laban who gave him Leah instead. It forced seven more years.
- 5. Look at what Esau has created.** NLT | Ge 28:8-9 **It was now very clear to Esau that his father did not like the local Canaanite women. 9 So Esau visited his uncle Ishmael's family and married one of Ishmael's daughters, in addition to the wives he already had.**

### But Also Notice These Positive Generational Effects in Genesis:

- 1. The final blessing.** This where a dying father will bless his oldest and his children. Oh, how we need our parents and grandparents to bless their children and give them direction and wisdom from their lessons learned.
- 2. The love of the family of God.** Throughout the Book of Genesis, we have God establishing His people with Israel through Abraham. And in Genesis, we see the people of God turning to God in their story. The family of God had one purpose... Oh, may we give our families the goal of serving God.
- 3. The faith of Abraham.** Abraham was chosen by God to be the father of His people. His faith of going into the unknown to serve God was remarkable! And to trust the Lord with the

request to sacrifice the promised child, Isaac. His faith was stellar. Oh, that our younger family members could see the stellar faith in us.

- 4. The unifying forgiveness of Joseph's family.** After being sold into slavery, thrown into prison, and falsely accused of rape... and all of this started by jealous brothers who hated him... we see Joseph extend forgiveness because the bigger picture was seen.

**Transition:** Every generation may be important... and decisions make all the difference in a family's future... grandparents and the elderly of this congregation... know that we cherish you and desire your wisdom. God is using you. Keep following the instructions found in Psalm 78:1-8...

### God's Take on the Role of Grandparents:

NKJV | Ps 78:1-8 Give ear, O my people, to my law; Incline your ears to the words of my mouth. 2 I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old, 3 Which we have heard and known, And our fathers have told us. 4 We will not hide them from their children, Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done. 5 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, The children who would be born, That they may arise and declare them to their children, 7 That they may set their hope in God, And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments; 8 And may not be like their fathers, A stubborn and rebellious generation, A generation that did not set its heart aright, And whose spirit was not faithful to God.

### The Incredible Importance of Grandparents:

#### 1. The power to pass faith forward. (vs. 3)

- 3 Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.
- We of this generation must be faithful in passing down this information to the next generation.
- We stand between past generations and the generations to come. We are entrusted by those who have gone before us with great and important truths; truths to be preserved and transmitted in their purity to future ages. We must be faithful to discharge this responsibility.
- In 2 Timothy, this was seen in Timothy's grandmother, Lois... and his mother, Eunice. They had been faithful to raise Timothy in the things of God... and he became a powerful man in the New Testament church.

#### 2. The principles to plant truth firmly. (vs. 4)

- 4 We will not hide them from their children, Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done.
- **Illustration of the Four Scholars and a Mother:** Four scholars were arguing over Bible translations. One said he preferred the King James Version because of its beauty, eloquent old English. Another said he preferred the American Standard Bible for its literalism, the way it moves the reader from passage to passage with confident feelings of accuracy from the original text. A third man preferred Moffatt because of its quaint, penetrating use of words, the turn of a phrase that captures the attention of the reader. After giving the issue further thought, the fourth scholar admitted, 'I have personally preferred my mother's translation.' When the other scholars chuckled, he responded, 'She translated each page of the Bible into life. It is the most convincing translation I ever saw.'

- Our kids need the word of God. But they need it lived out before them. They need it applied to daily events. They need to learn its principles. But they need to also learn how to apply its principles.

### 3. The path to protect the family future. (vs. 6)

- 6 That the generation to come might know them, The children who would be born, That they may arise and declare them to their children,
- There is no greater heritage we can give our kids than a solid faith in God.
- Money will easily fail them. There are some problems no amount of money can solve. The economy may fail them.
- Their friends may even fail them. But God will not fail them.
- And if they know what He has done in the past. If they know how powerful He is and how willing He is to intervene in their lives, then they can live with an abiding peace and joy confident in God's goodness.
- They can take their problems to God in prayer and get some help for the future.

### 4. The proof to value hope. (vs. 7)

- That they may set their hope in God, And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments;
- Hope in this verse can also mean confidence. If we show our confidence in God... they also will remember it and possibly practice it.
- We have hope in God when we place our daily lives in the hands of God... and to resolve to stay there. We do this for our own faith... and for those coming behind us.

**Transition:** Here's some action items for the Grandparents...

#### Our Action Response:

#### Grandparents, How Can We Impact the Generations Behind Us?

1. **Get to know them.** God is calling you to listen to them.
2. **Get to hear them.** God is calling us to learn from them.
3. **Get to guide them.** God is calling us to lead them.

**Transition:** Let me close with this story...

#### Closing:

**Final Illustration of the Color Test:** Grandma Bessie was at home babysitting her grandchildren. Bessie wondered just how much her 3-year-old granddaughter Allison had learned. She picked up a box of Crayons and began a test to see if she had learned her colors yet. She would pull a Crayon out of the box and ask what color it was. Little Allison would tell her and always she was correct. Finally, the little girl slid out of the porch swing and headed for the door. Over her shoulder, the little girl said, "**Grandma, I think you should try to figure out some of these yourself!**"

Grandparents, we are so grateful and thankful for you. We love how you have influenced us time and time again. Don't be afraid to figure us out. We need you, more than you'll ever know.