"Beyond Ordinary"

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INTRODUCTION

As we close out our "Beyond" sermon series we consider how we can go beyond being ordinary. As Christians we are anything but ordinary. In 1 Peter 2:9 we are called "... a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." Our challenge then is not only to live as the people God calls us to be, but also to pass along this legacy to the next generation. In the book of Deuteronomy Moses gives the Israelites direction that can help us to leave a legacy of our faith.

Ice Breaker (Optional-8 min)

Who would you say are the greatest influencers in our culture today?

STUDY QUESTIONS (45 MIN) Knowing whose we are

Q1. Read Deuteronomy 6:1-5

In the book of Deuteronomy Moses recounts and explains the words God has spoken to him and the laws they were given to observe. A very important element of his instructions included identifying the relationship between God and the people. How is God referred to in each of the verses of Deu 6:1-5? How do these references both give the individual their identity and point them toward the legacy of faith that God intends for his people? Not all of us grew up in a household of believers. What was your experience with faith of your family members? Who would you say had the greatest impact on your decision to follow Jesus? How have you witnessed to your family?

Q2. Read Deuteronomy 6:6-9; 2 Corinthians 3:3

One result of recognizing that we are God's people and His possession to be used for His purposes, is that His Word, and His Law become an integral part of our lives. Deu 6:6 says the commands are written on our hearts. How did Paul put this in his letter to the Corinthian church? (2 Corinthians 3:3) So then the way we live our lives is one of the means by which we impart our legacy of faith. It is demonstrated in what we do; leading by example. Another component of passing on a legacy of faith is outlined in Deu 6:7 - 9. Why is it important that we do both?

Leaving a legacy takes commitment Q3. Read Psalm 78:4-6; Judges 2:8, 10

Deuteronomy 6:7-9 lists many ways the Israelites were to impart the commands of God to their children. What does Psalm 78:6 tell us is the reason we are to diligently teach the next generation about God? Moses commissioned Joshua to take God's people into the Promised land. The instruction was clear that God intended Israel's faith to be passed down through the generations. But what does Judges 2:10 tell us happened to the generation after Joshua? The people had failed to carry out the assignment of passing on the legacy of their faith. This should be an awakening for us all to consider how faithfully we are putting our faith into action that leads to another generation knowing God. What are some of the ways you can make yourself available to God for the purpose of making Him known to the next generation?

WRAP-UP

As believers we are an "extraordinary" people. We are called by God, who writes His commands on our hearts for the purpose of making Himself known to all generations. We are to live a life that reflects our faith and be prepared to make God known to the next generation, so that they in turn can pass on the legacy of faith. If we fail to do so, a generation may rise up after us who do not know God or what He has done for us. Let's take every opportunity to extend a legacy of faith to the next generations.

Memory Verse

We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the LORD, about his power and his mighty wonders. Psalm 78:4 NLT

PRAYER (20 MIN)

Ask your group to pray for you regarding one area where you can apply this study in your life:

Pray for your group members' needs: (see back for more space)_____

Challenge

Investigate the opportunities you have at New Life to leave a legacy of faith for the next generation. Newlifepismo.com/legacy

Q1

Deuteronomy 6:1-5 ESV - 1 "Now this is the commandment--the statutes and the rules--that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, 2 that you may fear the LORD your God, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. 3 Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the LORD, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey. 4 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Q2

Deuteronomy 6:6-9 ESV - 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

2 Corinthians 3:3 ESV - 3 And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

Q3

Psalm 78:4-6 ESV - 4 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. 5 He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, 6 that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children,

Judges 2:8, 10 ESV - 8 And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died at the age of 110 years. ... 10 And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the LORD or the work that he had done for Israel.

Prayer requests con't