

# Passing the Baton

How to Maximize Your Impact on  
the Second and Third Generations

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# Dropping the Baton...



...Stops the  
Process.



# How do we impact the next generation...



...without dropping the baton?



Many references in the  
Bible where we are  
challenged to “Pass it On”  
to the next generation

# Israel Dropped the Baton

- After that whole generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation grew up, who knew neither the Lord nor what he had done for Israel.

Judges 2:10–11 (NIV)

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# Passing it On to the 4<sup>th</sup> Generation

- And even when I am old and gray, O God, do not forsake me, until I declare Your strength to ~~this generation~~. Your power to all who are to come.

Psalm 71:18 (NASU)

- Tell it to ~~your children~~, and let your children ~~tell it to their children~~, and their children to the next generation.

Joel 1:3 (NIV)

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# Our Journey

What are some of the obstacles that cause us to drop the baton and keep us from passing it on to the next generation?

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# Our Journey

## Obstacles:

1. We do not make it a priority, too busy
  2. We think that they are not interested
  3. We do not spend enough time with them
  4. We do not think that we have anything to offer.
  5. We think that they will get it automatically and we do not have to be intentional
  6. We major on the minors and not what is really important.
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# Our Journey

## Preparation for Passing it On!

1. Have mentors in our own life
  2. Have a community of accountable peers
  3. Time in God's Word
  4. Prayer for opportunities
  5. Focus on Divine appointments
  6. Intentional focus on the next generation
  7. Taking time for the important by making this a priority
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# Our Journey

## Where do we Serve?

1. It is not as much about position as it is about relationship.
  2. It is not as much about activity as it is about the opportunity for intentional investment into another life.
  3. We must constantly be aware of those opportunities.
  4. We must see which ones God blesses and encourages and focus on those.
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# Our Journey

- What are the various arenas in which we can pass on the baton?
  - In what ways is God able to use us in the lives of others in each of these four areas?
  - Which ones are most important and what are some practical suggestions for each area?
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# There are 4 Types of Generations

And Jesus kept increasing in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Luke 2:52 (NASU)

# 1) Family or Physical Generations

- Train, Teach, Warn, Correct our Children and Grandchildren
- All scripture is...profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness.”

2 Timothy 3:16, 17 (NASU)

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# Shift of Emphasis

- Physical Generations
    - 1531 times in the Old Testament
  - Physical Generations
    - 331 times in the New Testament  
(only 75 times if you take out Jesus' genealogies)
  - Emphasis shifts to our spiritual families or generations.
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## 2) Positional Generations

- Mentor, Encourage, Equip
    - Coworkers; those that we lead (apprentice) in wisdom or specific life skills
  - We were well-pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God but also our own lives, because you had become very dear to us.

1 Thessalonians 2:8 (NASU)
  - The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things.

Philippians 5:9 (NASU)
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### 3) Relational or Spiritual Generations

- Disciple those that God has entrusted to our care; usually 1-on-1 or small group relationships
    - Discipling is CAUGHT not TAUGHT
  - A disciple is not above his teacher, but when he is fully trained he will be like his teacher.”

Luke 6:40 (Phillips)
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## 4) Social or Societal Generations

- Influence and model to the next generation in our community and in our nation
  - Normally done in our daily actions
  - Large groups – writing or using the media
  - People learn far more by our example than by any other means.
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# Which is Most Important to God?

1. Spiritual or Relational
  2. Family
  3. Positional
  4. Society
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# How Do We Do This?

- Being intentional
- Family, co-workers, others
- Personal interaction
- Grow in your own walk
- Write, speak, touch lives around you
- Be involved
- Follow the model of Jesus

For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you.

John 13:15 (NASU)

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# Conclusion

- God has commanded us to teach, train, and warn our children.
  - He wants us to mentor, encourage, and equip our co-worker and the next generation of leaders.
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# Conclusion, cont.

- He wants us to establish, disciple, exhort, and counsel those followers of Jesus in the Body of Christ that he has placed around us in our churches and other relationships.
  - He wants us to model and influence for the good of the community and nation in which we live.
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# Conclusion, cont.

- Start where you are!
  - Do what you can.
  - Be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit
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