

Grandparenting Workshop - August 2022

By Ray Myers

In the Culture of our Times

Psalms 92:12-15

12 The **righteous flourish like the palm tree** and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

13 They are **planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish** in the courts of our God.

14 They **still bear fruit in old age**; they are ever full of sap and green,

15 **to declare that the LORD is upright**; he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

Remember God at every stage of life

1 Chronicles 16:8-12

8 **Give thanks** unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people.

9 **Sing unto him**, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works.

10 **Glory ye in his holy name**: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD.

11 **Seek the LORD** and his strength, seek his face continually.

12 **Remember his marvellous works that he hath done**, his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth;

Isaiah 40:28-31

28 Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, *that* the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? *there is* no searching of his understanding.

29 **He giveth power to the faint**; and to *them that have* no might he increaseth strength.

30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

31 But **they that wait upon the LORD shall renew *their* strength**; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; *and* they shall walk, and not faint.

Isaiah 41:10 Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: be not dismayed; for I *am* thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

Isaiah 46:4 even to your old age I am he, and to gray hairs **I will carry you**. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save.

What does God have to say about Grandparents

Proverbs 16:31 Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life.

Proverbs 17:6a Children's children *are* the crown of old men;

Psalm 127:3 Lo, children *are* an heritage of the LORD: *and* the fruit of the womb *is his* reward.

Deuteronomy 6:1-2, 7

1 Now **these *are* the commandments**, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, **that ye might do *them*** in the land whither ye go to possess it:

2 That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, **which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son**, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.

7 **And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children**, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Psalm 103:17

But **the mercy of the LORD** *is* from everlasting to everlasting upon **them that fear him**, and **his righteousness unto children's children**;

Raising Children

Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it

Ephesians 6:4 Bring up (your children) in the nurture and admonition of the Lord

Titus 2:1-3

1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:

2 That the **aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience**.

3 The **aged women likewise, that *they be* in behaviour as becometh holiness**, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;

Exodus 10:1-2

1 And **the LORD said unto Moses**, Go in unto Pharaoh: for I have hardened his heart, and the heart of his servants, that **I might shew these my signs** before him:

2 And that thou **mayest tell in the ears of thy son, and of thy son's son what things I have wrought** in Egypt, and my signs which I have done among them; that **ye may know how that I am the LORD**.

Psalm 78:1-7

1 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, shewing to the generation to come** the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath 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*, 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:

Deuteronomy 6:2, 7

2 That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, **which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son**, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged.

7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt **talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up**.

Examples of children who walked in the ways of grandparent(s)

Abraham, Isaac, Jacob – Grandfather, son, grandson

Genesis 18:17-19

17 And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do;

18 Seeing that **Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?**

19 For I know him, that **he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD**, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

Most biblical chronologists agree that Abraham lived until Jacob was 15-16 – plenty of time for Grandfather Abraham to teach grandson Jacob these wonderful truths regarding the land of promise and the promised seed.

Naomi, Ruth, Obed, Jesse, David – Grandmother, mother, son, grandson, great-grandson

Ruth 4:13-17

13 So Boaz took Ruth, and she was his wife: and when he went in unto her, the LORD gave her conception, and she bare a son.

14 And **the women said unto Naomi, Blessed be the LORD, which hath not left thee this day without a kinsman**, that his name may be famous in Israel.

15 And he shall be unto thee a restorer of *thy* life, and a nourisher of thine old age: for thy daughter in law, which loveth thee, which is better to thee than seven sons, hath born him.

16 And **Naomi took the child, and laid it in her bosom, and became nurse** unto it.

17 And the women her neighbours gave it a name, saying, **There is a son born to Naomi; and they called his name Obed: he is the father of Jesse, the father of David.**

Lois, Eunice, Timothy – Grandmother, daughter, grandson

Acts 16:1 Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, **a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek:**

2 Timothy 1:5 call to remembrance the **unfeigned [pure without hypocrisy] faith that is in thee**, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.

2 Timothy 3:15 And that **from a child thou hast known the holy Scriptures**, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Some things to consider

- It has been said, “The greatest legacy one can pass on to one’s grandchildren is not money or other material things accumulated in one’s life, but rather a legacy of character and faith.”

- No one on earth will pray for grandchildren like their grandparents. Even when a grandparent is sickly, he or she can work hard at being a godly grandparent simply by praying for their grandchildren.
- Another way grandparents can be a tremendous influence is by telling their personal experiences with God to their grandchildren over and over. Tell stories about God's provision, about how He always keeps His promises, about His faithfulness.
- Grandparents have lived a long life – and now they are at the stage where they get to sit and explain His goodness in their lives! What a remarkable way to leave a legacy!

Deuteronomy 4:9

Only **take heed to thyself**, and keep thy soul diligently, **lest thou forget the things which thine eyes have seen**, and lest they depart from thy heart all the days of thy life: but **teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons**;

Proverbs 13:22a

A good *man* leaveth **an inheritance to his children's children**:

Proverbs 4:10-11

10 Hear, O my son, and **receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many.**

11 **I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths.**

Remember these bottom-line things concerning grandparents who make a practice of Biblical truths regarding grandparenting:

1. View Grandchildren as a Blessing
 2. Understand the Biblical Purpose of Grandparenting
 3. Bear Spiritual Fruit
 4. Focus on Your Own Spiritual Life – feed yourself throughout your life
 5. Teach the Bible to Grandchildren
- Grandparenting is a life-long opportunity to teach, but do not attempt to teach everything in a few sittings.
 - This is the kind of apple that you eat one bite at a time – slow and steady wins the course.
 - Even just 5-10 minutes per week amounts to 9-10 hours of solid teaching time/year
 - Make it fun for them and you – not tedious
 - Be patient.
 - Create time for them when they can listen to you without phones, tablets, tv, etc.

- Expect some distractions, even some disappointments – but an acorn slowly becomes a massive oak.
- And don't forget – faithfully pray for your grandchildren.
- Then, stand back and see what God works in them in light of your prayer and teaching them from God's Word.