

WEEK 5 HOME STUDY

Next Generation Youth Weekend Celebration

"The Next Generation Will Not Be Lost on Our Watch"

Judges 2:10 (KJV) — "And also all that generation were gathered unto their fathers: and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he had done for Israel."

Psalms 145:4 (KJV) — "One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts."

Welcome to Week 5

This week's home study builds on the Next Generation Weekend message: our children and grandchildren cannot inherit our salvation secondhand, but we carry a God-given responsibility to tell them, show them, and make room for them — while trusting the Holy Spirit to bring each of them to a faith of their own.

Use this guide individually, as a couple, or as a family. Each day includes a short teaching, a Scripture focus, reflection questions, a discussion prompt for the whole household, and a prayer focus. Plan for 15–20 minutes per day.

This Week's Memory Verse

Psalms 145:4 (KJV) — "One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts."

Consider writing it on an index card, saying it together at dinner, or having each family member recite it by Friday.

Weekly Overview

- Day 1 — Tell Them What God Has Done
- Day 2 — Show Them What Faith Looks Like
- Day 3 — Make Room for Them to Serve God Now
- Day 4 — Don't Expect a Photocopy; Invest Before the World Does
- Day 5 — Young People: Know God for Yourself
- Weekend — Family Celebration & Commitment

DAY 1 — WE MUST TELL THEM WHAT GOD HAS DONE

Day 1: Tell the Story

Psalm 78:4 (KJV) — "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."

Faith was designed to travel from one generation to the next through spoken testimony, not silence. God does something for Grandma; Grandma tells Mama; Mama tells the children — and one day someone is praising God for something that happened before they were even born.

Possessions can be sold, spent, or worn out — but a testimony can live for generations. Joshua 4 records that after Israel crossed the Jordan, God had them set up a memorial of twelve stones so that when children asked, "What mean ye by these stones?", their parents would have a reason to tell them what God had done.

Telling the story isn't limited to the pulpit. It happens at the kitchen table and in the car on the way to school. Someone needs to write it down or record it while the storyteller can still tell it.

Reflect on This:

1. What is one specific thing God has done for you or your family that you have never told your children or grandchildren in detail?
2. What "memorial stones" — objects, traditions, or family stories — remind your household of God's faithfulness?
3. Whose faith story (a parent, grandparent, mentor) shaped your own walk with God? What part of it do you still need to pass on?

Family / Small Group Discussion:

Set aside 10 minutes at a meal this week for one family member to tell a true story of something God has done. If you are studying alone, write your testimony down as if explaining it to a child.

Prayer Focus

Lord, give me the words and the courage to tell my family what You have done. Help me not to keep Your goodness to myself. Amen.

DAY 2 — WE MUST SHOW THEM WHAT FAITH LOOKS LIKE

Day 2: Faith That Is Caught, Not Just Taught

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 — *"And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children."*

God's order matters: His Word must first be in our own hearts before it can be taught to children. Children may not understand theology, but they can detect hypocrisy — they know when we act one way at church and another way at home.

Faith is more often caught than taught. Young people need more than instructions; they need examples — people who apologize, forgive, pray out loud, and admit "I was wrong."

The question is not simply whether our children are watching us. It's what they are learning about Jesus by watching us.

Reflect on This:

4. In what area of your life is there a gap between what you say you believe and what your family actually sees you do?
5. When was the last time you let a child or young person see you pray, apologize, or forgive someone? What happened?
6. Who modeled genuine faith for you growing up — and what specifically did they show you, rather than tell you?

Family / Small Group Discussion:

Ask each young person in the house: "What is one thing you've noticed about how I handle hard days?" Listen without defending yourself — just listen.

Prayer Focus

Lord, let my life preach louder than my words. Where I've been inconsistent, help me be honest and humble enough to say so. Amen.

DAY 3 — WE MUST MAKE ROOM FOR THEM TO SERVE GOD NOW

Day 3: The Church of Today, Not Just Tomorrow

Joel 2:28 — "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy."

Young people are not merely "the church of tomorrow" — they are the church of today. Samuel, David, Josiah, and Mary were all used mightily by God while still young.

We cannot pray for young leaders, musicians, teachers, and preachers and then refuse to give them anywhere to actually lead, play, teach, or preach. Making room costs something — it means older, more "seasoned" hands stepping back so younger hands can grow.

Every believer, regardless of age, is part of "a royal priesthood" (1 Peter 2:9), and the Spirit distributes gifts "to every man severally as he will" (1 Corinthians 12:11) — with no age requirement attached.

Reflect on This:

7. Where in your church, home, or ministry have you (perhaps unintentionally) kept a young person from serving or leading?
8. What is one real responsibility — not just a token task — you could hand to a younger person this month?
9. How do you personally respond when a young person's idea or method is different from "how we've always done it"?

Family / Small Group Discussion:

As a family or small group, identify one concrete opportunity to let a young person lead something in the next two weeks (a prayer, a song, a discussion, a project) and commit to actually stepping back and letting them do it.

Prayer Focus

Lord, forgive me for the times I've asked You to raise up young leaders and then blocked the door when You did. Help me make room. Amen.

DAY 4 — DON'T EXPECT A PHOTOCOPY; INVEST BEFORE THE WORLD DOES

Day 4: Same Gospel, Different Container

2 Timothy 2:2 — *"The things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."*

Psalm 145:4 says one generation shall praise God's works to another — it does not say one generation must reproduce every preference of another. The Gospel never changes, but methods, styles, and language can and often must adapt across generations and cultures.

Someone is going to disciple our children — the only question is who. If the church and home don't teach them, culture, social media, and algorithms will happily fill the silence, every single day.

Paul's chain in 2 Timothy 2:2 — Paul to Timothy, Timothy to faithful people, faithful people to others — is a multiplication plan, not a single hand-off. Discipleship happens everywhere, not just at church on Sunday.

Reflect on This:

10. What is one method or tradition you've held onto that may be personal preference rather than biblical truth?
11. What is competing for your child's or grandchild's attention right now, and what is it teaching them?
12. What would it look like to disciple "when thou sittest in thine house... walkest by the way... liest down... risest up" (Deuteronomy 6:7) this week — not just on Sunday?

Family / Small Group Discussion:

Talk together about screen time and influences: what voices are shaping the young people in your home each day, and how can the family intentionally add a stronger, godly voice into that mix?

Prayer Focus

Lord, help me hold tightly to the Gospel and loosely to my preferences. Show me how to out-invest the noise competing for my family's attention. Amen.

DAY 5 — YOUNG PEOPLE: KNOW GOD FOR YOURSELF

Day 5: Not Grandma's Faith — Yours

2 Timothy 1:5 — *"When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also."*

Timothy had a godly grandmother and mother whose faith was real and lived out. But Paul still says, "I am persuaded that in thee also" — Timothy had to own his faith personally.

Jesus told Nicodemus, a grown man with generations of religious heritage, "Ye must be born again" (John 3:7) — singular and personal. No family tree, however godly, transfers automatically into an individual soul.

Someone else's testimony can point you to the table and even set it for you, but nobody can eat the meal on your behalf. "O taste and see that the LORD is good" (Psalm 34:8) is an invitation to a personal experience, not a secondhand one.

Reflect on This:

13. (For young people) Is your faith currently your own, or is it mostly what you've heard from parents, grandparents, or your pastor?
14. (For parents/grandparents) Have you clearly and directly invited your child to trust Christ personally, rather than assuming your faith covers them?
15. What would it look like this week to "taste and see" for yourself — through prayer, Scripture, or an honest conversation with God?

Family / Small Group Discussion:

Have an open conversation as a family: each person shares, in their own words, where they currently stand with God — no pressure, just honesty. Parents/grandparents, resist the urge to "fix" the answer; just listen and pray.

Prayer Focus

Lord, I don't want to live off someone else's relationship with You. Meet me personally this week. Make Your faith my faith. Amen.

WEEKEND — FAMILY CELEBRATION & COMMITMENT

Wrapping Up the Week

Judges 2:10 warns us what happens when the chain of faith is broken between generations. Psalm 145:4 shows us how to keep it connected. This weekend, bring the household together to close out the study and make it personal.

Family Time Suggestions

- Recite this week's memory verse together (Psalm 145:4) as a family.
- Let each family member share one thing from this week's study that stood out to them most.
- If appropriate, use this time for a young person to make or renew a personal commitment to Christ.
- Consider starting or adding to a family "memorial" — a written testimony page, a recorded story, or a keepsake Bible passed down with names and dates written inside.

Closing Declaration

"THE NEXT GENERATION WILL NOT BE LOST ON OUR WATCH."

Not our sons. Not our daughters. Not our grandchildren. Not on our watch.

Prayer Focus

Lord, thank You for one more week to tell, show, and invest in the next generation. Keep the chain of faith unbroken in our family. May every generation yet to come know You for themselves. In Jesus' name, Amen.