

Practice the Hand-off

We discussed the importance of a good “hand-off” this weekend as Church leadership announced the succession plan from Pastor Les to Pastor Micah. I was struck by how humble and honoring Pastor Les, Pastor Micah, Pastor Mike, and Greg Scaglione on behalf of the Elders were in presenting this coming transition so clearly. It made me think of family. How am I preparing to hand-off my leadership to my sons? Am I preparing for it?

The Bible is full of successions. From the patriarchs, to Moses and Joshua, to the Kings of Judah and Israel, to John the Baptist and Jesus, and the disciples etc. God’s kingdom has been advancing and will continue to advance until it is fully complete! But, I am responsible for my family. There is a principle evident in counseling, but it is really more of a spiritual principle seen in families. We address this principle in our Restoration Event (Scheduled for this October 29-30) called, Generational Iniquities and Blessings. In short, we read in Exodus 20:5-6 “You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.” We reap what we sow. God would love to bless our descendants for a thousand generations! In order to receive that, He asks that we love Him. This is how we can fumble the “hand-off.” We need to model for our children a life that centers on Loving God. He says to keep His commandments. John 14:6 tells us that if we love Him we keep his commandments. This is not a list of do’s and don’ts. We love God by putting Him first in our lives, and loving people. If our children see that we prioritize kindness, patience, and gentleness over materialism, security, and justice, they can receive from us a GOOD HAND-OFF!

Now just in case you feel you have to carry this whole burden on yourself, remember: your child will have to run their race as well. It is possible for them to mishandle the “hand-off.” Our focus is on how you can model and set them up for success. You see, God has allowed us to be a part of His Kingdom with real responsibilities! Our lives have meaning and influence even after we are gone. Let’s make sure we hand off a legacy of loving God!



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