

Sermon Notes for Family Service Sunday

7/5/26 @CC

Title: Generational Joy by Max McCalley

3 John 1:3-4: 3 For I rejoiced greatly when the brothers[a] came and testified to your truth, as indeed you are walking in the truth. **4** I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.

Eternal Urgency

"72% of respondents came to faith before the age of 18, while the remaining 28% didn't start holding Evangelical beliefs until they were adults." -Grey Matter Research 2023

Proverbs 3:27 Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.

God at Work

Psalms 145:4 "One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts"

Sermon Discussion Questions for Central Campus

Read the Scriptures above aloud before beginning your group discussion. Consider using a few different translations like ESV, Amplified, CSB, etc.

Icebreaker Idea – share how you celebrated the 4th of July as a kid &/or this year?

1. John writes, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth." Who are the people God has placed in your life to influence spiritually—whether children, grandchildren, students, younger believers, friends, or neighbors—and what might it look like to intentionally encourage them this week?
2. Psalm 145 reminds us that one generation should declare God's works to the next. As you reflect on your own faith journey, who faithfully invested in you, and what impact did that have on your relationship with Christ?
3. Family Service Sundays highlight the urgency of sharing our faith and engaging in meaningful ways with younger generations. What opportunities do you see around you to invest in the next generation, and what sometimes keeps you from taking that step?
4. Proverbs 3:27 encourages us not to withhold good when it is within our power to act. How might God be inviting you to use your time, gifts, encouragement, &/or presence to bless someone younger in their faith?
5. Generational discipleship isn't limited to parents. How can we be more intentionally engaged with every generation both individually and as a small group?

6. Who do you know that isn't yet "walking in the truth"? Write their names down on an index card and put the cards with names on the floor in the middle of the room. Have each person choose a card that is not theirs and spend some time praying for each person listed. Take the cards home and commit to praying for them this month.

For application and next steps:

- 1) Help us bless kids around the world this week by providing supplies to fill 1400 Shoeboxes for [Christmas in July](#)
- 2) Spend some time in prayer, consider going &/or supporting an RPC Ministry Partner focused on evangelizing, discipling and raising up leaders in the next generation such as:
 - **Reach Out Youth Solutions** [Reach Out Youth Solutions | Mission & Vision](#)
 - **VIA Nations** contact robert.ewing@vianations.org
 - **Young Living Stones** [Our Team – Young Living Stones](#)
- 3) Consider adopting/sponsoring a child in need anywhere in the world through Compassion International to provide encouragement, prayer, food, medicine and education [Sponsor a Child — Compassion International](#)
- 4) If you haven't found a place to volunteer – would you prayerfully consider serving in our children's, special needs, or student ministry? Find more info at [NextGen Volunteers](#)