

God of Generations

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1. GOD IS A GOD OF GENERATIONS

"A god sized dream always requires more than one generation."

-Rick Dubose

¹⁰ The LORD foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples. ¹¹ But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

Psalm 33:10-11 NIV

⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.

Luke 1:50 NIV

¹⁸ Let this be written for a future generation, that a people not yet created may praise the Lord.

Psalm 102:18 NIV

2. GOD IS CONCERNED WITH THE GENERATIONS, SO WE SHOULD BE TOO

We can define a "generation" as "a group of people born within a certain period of time whose shared age and experiences shape a distinct worldview."

- Builders
 - 74+, lived during WWII, MODEL T was the car, record player
- Boomers
 - 55-73, moon landing, Ford Mustang, used audio cassettes
- Gen X
 - 40-54, stock market crash in '87, Holden Commodore, rubix cube
- Gen Y/Millennials
 - 25-39, Sept. 11, Prius, ipod
- Gen Z
 - 10-24, Global Financial Crisis 2008, Tesla, Spotify

“What do you think is the thing your parents want more than anything for you?”

- To see me succeed
- Close relationship with God/ knowing scripture for myself
- To be successful
- Financial security and happiness
- To be successful and financially stable in the future
- To truly know and love Jesus
- Happiness
- Success
- To never leave Christ
- Happiness and faith. Once you find happiness, everything is ok!
- Happiness
- To have a good relationship with them
- For me to be happy and safe

¹ O my people, listen to my instructions. Open your ears to what I am saying, ² for I will speak to you in a parable. I will teach you hidden lessons from our past ³ stories we have heard and known, stories our ancestors handed down to us. ⁴ We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord, about his power and his mighty wonders. ⁵ For he issued his laws to Jacob; he gave his instructions to Israel. He commanded our ancestors to teach them to their children, ⁶ so the next generation might know them even the children not yet born and they in turn will teach their own children. ⁷ So each generation should set its hope anew on God, not forgetting his glorious miracles and obeying his commands. ⁸ Then they will not be like their ancestors stubborn, rebellious, and unfaithful, refusing to give their hearts to God.

Psalm 78:1-8 NLT

⁸ Joshua son of Nun, the servant of the Lord, died at the age of a hundred and ten. ⁹ And they buried him in the land of his inheritance, at Timnath Heres in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash. ¹⁰ After that whole generation had been gathered to their ancestors, another generation grew up who knew neither the Lord nor what he had done for Israel.

Judges 2:8-10 NIV

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

Proverbs 22:6 KJV

- Older Generations - What is your role in shaping younger generations?
 - Take Responsibility for the Next Generation
 - Prioritize What Matters
 - Invest Your Resources
 - Model Well
 - Expect a Lot

"What one generation tolerates; the next generation will embrace."

-John Wesley

¹³ "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad and easy to travel is the path that leads the way to destruction and eternal loss, and there are many who enter through it. ¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow and difficult to travel is the path that leads the way to [everlasting] life, and there are few who find it.¹⁵ "Beware of the false prophets, [teachers] who come to you dressed as sheep [appearing gentle and innocent], but inwardly are ravenous wolves.

Matthew 7:13-15 AMP

"Nothing in the world is worth having or worth doing unless it means effort, pain, difficulty... I have never in my life envied a human being who led an easy life. I have envied a great many people who led difficult lives and led them well."

-Theodore Roosevelt

3. WHY IS THE ROAD NARROW AND DIFFICULT?

4. TRUTH IS DEFINED BY GOD NOT BY US

¹⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right."

2 Timothy 3:16 NLT

- 24% of Gen Z strongly agrees that what is morally right and wrong changes over time based on society.

- 38% of Gen Z believe that marriage is a lifelong commitment between a man and a woman
- 34% believe lying is morally wrong
- 21% believe sex before marriage is wrong
- 65% say that if your beliefs offend someone they are wrong

³ For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

2 Timothy 4:3-4 NIV

5. WHY IS THE ROAD NARROW AND DIFFICULT?

²⁴ Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me.

Matthew 16:24 NLT

- Younger Generations - What is your responsibility to God?
 - Choose the Narrow Road
 - Commitment to Truth
 - Die Daily

6. SO, WHERE’S THE GOOD NEWS

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age

Titus 2:11-12 ESV