

Leaving a legacy

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dignity
WOMEN
WITH PURPOSE

LESSON ONE: Ps Kathy Strong

Leaving a Legacy – She lives with Purpose

Intro and welcome – Introduce yourself and the evening, quick chat to relax everyone.

(Read aloud) LEGACY.....

It can sound like a scary word right?

When we think of leaving a legacy for our kids or the next generation, it can cause stress and leave us feeling overwhelmed.

What if I leave a bad one?

What if it isn't good enough?

I have nothing to leave?

I don't have a lot of money!

A Legacy is defined in the dictionary as "Anything handed down from the past." And so often, we think this means money, houses, cars or even a business.

What are some things you think of when you hear the word "legacy?"

(Lead a group discussion where the group can take some notes on what 'legacy' means to them, 5 – 10mins)

Notes:

"We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord."

Psalm 78:4

(Read aloud) But a legacy is not necessarily about wealth and worldly possessions. Sure, it can be, but a far greater legacy we can leave the next generation is to teach them about our ever-faithful God. To live a life that honors God in everything we do.

Introduce Ps Kathy Strong – Kathy Strong and her husband Phil, pastor North End Church in Te Awamutu. Kathy is a mum to two big kids, pastor’s wife, blogger, seminary student, women’s ministry leader and creator of an amazing ministry for tweens called ‘Daughters of the King.’ She is bursting with faith, joy and hope and longs to see all women rise to their potential.



(Watch AV clip ‘leaving a legacy’ 2:39mins, discuss as a group what stood out to them from Kathy’s message).

(Read aloud) Teaching the next generation about how awesome our God is, is the greatest legacy we can leave them. Remembering the good things God has done in our lives. It’s not so much about us but about what God has done in our lives that will impact and encourage the people coming after us. Sharing those moments when God has shown Himself strong in our lives. Not so much ‘our’ legacy but God’s legacy getting passed on.

(In their table groups, discuss and write down some answers to the following questions).

Q What is a legacy you would like to leave the next generation?

Passing on a legacy doesn’t have to be in written form, each of us have our own way of leaving a legacy. The important thing is to sow those seeds, tell those stories, live in a way that reflects God in your life, it all counts.

Q What are some ways you can leave a legacy?

Q What about in our everyday lives, for example in our work places, families or spheres of influence? How can we leave a legacy in these areas?

(Discuss and share as a group some of your answers – time allowing).

(Read aloud) Remember, it isn't about us, it is about sharing those moments when God has stepped into your situation and transformed your life. There is purpose in sharing these moments as these are the moments that are going to encourage and inspire the next generation to live a life of legacy also.

God's legacy, passed from generation to generation.

Deuteronomy 6: 5-9 (NLT) – *“And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength. And you must commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these commands that I am giving you today. Repeat them again and again to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are on the road, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”*

Don't let the enemy 'silence' you from sharing your legacy, those God moments that need to be passed on. You have a voice, whether it be through writing a journal, printing photos, creating a piece of artwork, music, sharing testimony or just living a life that reflects Christ. Let 'your' individual voice be heard as you leave a legacy of God for the next generation.

Notes:



Encourage the group to take a look at the extra study and website:

www.strengthanddignity.co.nz

Wrap up lesson one and give details for the time and date of next Strength and dignity – Women with Purpose session.



Extra Study – Kathy Strong

Retelling stories of God’s goodness is the greatest legacy we can leave the next generation. And remember, it doesn’t have to be complicated!

It’s great to read the stories in the Bible to see God’s faithfulness, but it is also great to tell your own stories. As you sit around the dinner table, or catch up with friends, tell stories of God’s goodness in your lives:

“Remember that time we had no money and God provided food for us.”

“Remember that time we prayed for And they got healed.”

“Remember that time....”

In the book of Joshua, he set up the 12 stones in Gilgal that he had taken from the Jordan and said *“In the future when your descendants ask their fathers ‘What do these stones mean?’ tell them ‘Israel crossed the Jordan on dry ground.’ (Josh 4:20-21)*

Visual reminders are a great way for us to remember God’s goodness in our lives, and for the next generation to also see. It can be a photo, a memento, or just something that can prompt you to tell stories of how amazing our God is. A journal is also a great way to record His goodness that can be handed down to future generations.

So when you think of leaving a legacy for your kids or the next generation, don’t get stressed or overwhelmed, wondering if you are leaving them enough. If you can leave them with stories of God’s grace and goodness, you are leaving them the best possible legacy.

Scriptures on Legacy:

Deut 6:5-9 Deut 12:28 Josh 4:21-22 Psalm 145:4 Prov 13:22
Prov 22:6 Phil 4:8-9 2 Tim 2:2 3 John 1:4



www.strengthanddignity.co.nz for further reading and study.