

Second Generation Believers Judges 2:6-15

And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the LORD or the work that he had done for Israel.

- Judges 2:10

I. A VERY SAD NARRATIVE

- Joshua's generation have passed on. That generation saw God's work, and honored him. The next generation, however, did not (vss. 6-10; 1 Sam. 8:1-5).
- The immediate consequences for Israel was discipline from the Lord and an inability to hold their own against their enemies (vss. 14-15).
- The long term consequences was the time of the Judges, when everyone did what was right in their own eyes (Deut. 12:8; Judges 17:6; 21:25).
- When we, or our children, reject the Lord, the natural direction leads toward idolatry and evil (vss.11-13; Rom. 1:18-32).

II. THE MOST VALUABLE INVESTMENT

- Spiritual investments pay the largest dividends in life (Matt. 6:19-21; 13:44-46; 2 Tim. 1:3-7).
- How do we invest in this manner?
 - 1. Prepare yourself fan into flame your gifts
 - 2. Re-organize/prioritize your life
 - 3. Invest properly look to heaven over earth
 - 4. Disciplers make yourself available
 - 5. New/young believers ask for help
 - 6. Put pride and ego away
 - 7. Pray/seek opportunities

KNOW: We have a biblical mandate to train the next generation of believers. It must be a priority.

DO: Teach and equip the next generation of believers.

Suggested Reading:

Shepherding a Child's Heart by Tedd Tripp (LifePoint Library #649.2 TRI) Age of Opportunity by Paul David Tripp (LifePoint Library #649.2 TRI)

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read Judges 2:6-15

- 1. What is the overall lesson to learn from this passage?
- 2. Why did Joshua's generation remain (generally speaking) faithful to the Lord? What had they seen?
- 3. Why did the next generation turn away from the Lord?
- 4. Why are so many so fearful about discipling a younger believer?
- 5. What is it that makes so many of us short-sighted? Why do we think so much about our lives now when the Scriptures tell us to prepare for an eternal future?
- 6. What should we do if we find ourselves in a position of having wasted, or at least undervalued, many years of our life?
- 7. What will you do as a result of this message?