

SESSION



LEAVE A LEGACY

IF YOU
COULD BE
KNOWN
FOR ONE
THING, WHAT
WOULD
IT BE?

THE POINT >

GODLY LIVING IMPACTS FUTURE GENERATIONS.

▶ 2 CHRONICLES 17:1-13

¹ Jehoshaphat his son reigned in his place and strengthened himself against Israel. ² He placed forces in all the fortified cities of Judah and set garrisons in the land of Judah, and in the cities of Ephraim that Asa his father had captured. ³ The LORD was with Jehoshaphat, because he walked in the earlier ways of his father David. He did not seek the Baals, ⁴ but sought the God of his father and walked in his commandments, and not according to the practices of Israel. ⁵ Therefore the LORD established the kingdom in his hand. And all Judah brought tribute to Jehoshaphat, and he had great riches and honor. ⁶ His heart was courageous in the ways of the LORD. And furthermore, he took the high places and the Asherim out of Judah. ⁷ In the third year of his reign he sent his officials, Ben-hail, Obadiah, Zechariah, Nethanel,

and Micaiah, to teach in the cities of Judah; ⁸ and with them the Levites, Shemaiah, Nethaniah, Zebadiah, Asahel, Shemiramoth, Jehonathan, Adonijah, Tobijah, and Tobadonijah; and with these Levites, the priests Elishama and Jehoram. ⁹ And they taught in Judah, having the Book of the Law of the LORD with them. They went about through all the cities of Judah and taught among the people. ¹⁰ And the fear of the LORD fell upon all the kingdoms of the lands that were around Judah, and they made no war against Jehoshaphat. ¹¹ Some of the Philistines brought Jehoshaphat presents and silver for tribute, and the Arabians also brought him 7,700 rams and 7,700 goats. ¹² And Jehoshaphat grew steadily greater. He built in Judah fortresses and store cities, ¹³ and he had large supplies in the cities of Judah. He had soldiers, mighty men of valor, in Jerusalem.



THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

FACT:
IF YOU'RE NOT
PARTICULARLY
ATHLETIC, BUT YOU
HAPPEN TO HAVE A
BURNING COMPETITIVE
SPIRIT, YOU MAY
WANT TO MOVE TO
THAILAND WHERE
KITE FLYING IS A
COMPETITIVE SPORT.¹

Many of the good things we experience in our lives today are the result of the hard work, ingenuity, and sacrifice of the people who lived before us, and who were often willing to boldly step out to make a difference. We call those people legacy builders.

When I was six years old, just before the beginning of the school year, my family moved to a new town where my dad would start his own business. It was a great opportunity for our family. However, there was a big problem. I'd played tee-ball the year before, and our new town had no park league for the little guys. This was simply unacceptable to my dad. I'd displayed tremendous athletic talent the year before, and he just couldn't let that talent go to waste. So he talked with our town's officials, organized a couple meetings, and by the time spring rolled around, our city's new rec league was in full swing.

Today, hundreds of kids miss grounders and strike out—and a few make exceptional plays—all in the league my dad started years ago. And whether they recognize it or not, they're enjoying the benefits of the legacy my dad left behind.

King Asa was another man who also left a legacy. In his life, we see a man who greatly impacted the generations to follow.

2 CHRONICLES 17:1-6

1 How can we recognize godly leaders?

2 How have you benefited from the spiritual legacy of those who've gone before you?





2 CHRONICLES 17:7-9

3 How would you describe our responsibility to teach God's Word to others?

4 What tools or practices have you found useful in studying God's Word?

5 List some ways you influence others to know and obey God's Word.

We may not see ourselves as leaders, but we all have influence, and this can change someone's eternity. #BSFLgodlylife



2 CHRONICLES 17:10-13

6 What are the rewards of Bible study and devotion to God?

7 When have you seen someone respond positively to your living for Jesus?

8 What opportunities exist for you to influence others for Christ?



LIVE IT OUT

▶ CHRIST

We were created to make a difference in others' lives by exemplifying God's character and reflecting His glory. In order to do this, we must first be influenced by Jesus and shaped into His likeness.

9 In what ways can others clearly see Jesus in you?

10 What will you do this week in order to grow in Christ's likeness?

PRAY THIS PRAYER EVERY DAY THIS WEEK

Father, help me to know You and love You more deeply. As I grow in my relationship with You, help me make an impact for the sake of Your kingdom.

► COMMUNITY

There are undoubtedly people in your life who have modeled what it means to follow Christ, and that you have followed as an example.

11 Write a note or text that person and let him or her know how he or she influenced your walk with Christ. Make sure to say thank you!



12 How will you seek to influence or encourage a friend this week?

► CULTURE

God used Jehoshaphat as a light to the nations—to make the power and glory of God known even to people who didn't believe. God desires to use us for the very same purpose!

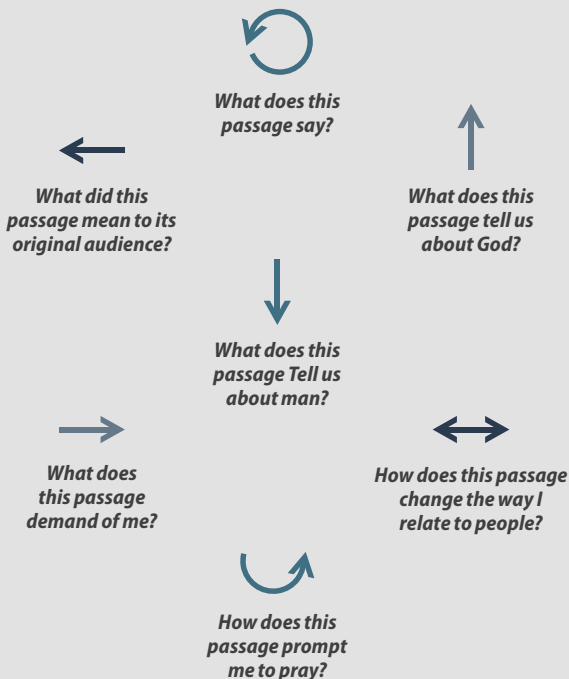
13 How have you seen the power of God make a difference in your life?

14 How will you put this on display before others who don't know God in order to help them see His goodness?

DAILY DEVOTIONS



THE 7 ARROWS OF BIBLE READING



DAY ONE PSALM 78:1

As God's people, we are called to share the good news of Jesus with others. When we share, we'll find that some people are happy to listen. However, many more, it seems, aren't really interested. In fact, the gospel is offensive to a lot of people (1 Pet. 2:7-8)—after all, it says we aren't good, we can't take care of ourselves, and we have to surrender our lives to the control of someone else. Because of this, we are sometimes hesitant to talk about Jesus. However, the psalmist saw things differently. He felt a burden for his people, and he'd received an inspired message from God. He couldn't help but talk about it. He implored those he cared about to listen. He was about to share a message with the power to change lives.

- **Why are we sometimes hesitant to talk about Jesus?**
- **How have people responded when you've shared your testimony or the gospel?**

DAY TWO

PSALM 78:2



God established festivals and rituals to help His people remember how He'd worked on their behalf in the past. For instance, the Passover reminded the Jews of God's delivering their ancestors from slavery in Egypt. Similarly, the Lord's Supper reminds us of the price Jesus paid for our salvation. This Psalm was written for that same purpose—the psalmist would tell stories from Israel's past. However, their people's history was more than just a story. It was a record of God's faithfulness, and God's character was pictured in the ways He related to His people. This had been a mystery before, but the psalmist was ready to reveal these truths to his people.

- **When has a truth from the Bible, which you had trouble understanding, become very clear?**
- **How has God helped you grow in understanding ideas that were previously unclear?**

DAY THREE

PSALM 78:3

When God called His people, He intended all along for that relationship to continue far beyond a single man or a single generation. When God made a covenant with Abraham, He promised to bless him in amazing ways, and these blessings were extended to Abraham's descendants (Gen. 15:18). When God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses, He promised to show faithful love "to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commands" (Ex. 20:6). Though, all along, God desired these blessings to continue, it wouldn't happen automatically. Instead, it depended on parents' passing on their faith to their children. As each new generation followed God, they were then responsible to pass it on. The psalmist recognized that he'd received a faith that had been passed down. Now it was his turn to share with a future generation.

- **Who passed their faith down to you?**
- **How do you demonstrate appreciation to former generations for passing on their faith?**

DAY FOUR PSALM 78:4a

There are two ways to keep things hidden. If you have a new remote control car and you know your little brother can't resist playing with it, you hide it on a high shelf in your closet to keep him from breaking it. This is "active" hiding. However, other things are hidden passively. This means we aren't keeping things out of sight on purpose. Instead, we simply forget about them, and they stay hidden away. Think about the same remote control car—after you've had it for two years, the excitement has worn off, and you're much more interested in your new video game console, so it stays hidden away simply because you don't care. When it comes to our faith, we can't afford to hide it. Sometimes, we actively refuse to share because we're afraid of what others may think. Other times, we simply forget to share because the gospel isn't really on our minds. Either way, when we fail to pass on our faith, other people God loves deeply miss out on the blessings He'd like to pass on through us. Let's make sure we never hide the message of Jesus!

- **How have you been tempted to "hide" the gospel?**
- **How can you make sure you never forget to share what God's doing in your life?**

DAY FIVE PSALM 78:4b



Perhaps when we grow up in church or we've been Christians for most of our lives, the message of the gospel is so familiar that it doesn't seem like a big deal. However, when we step back and think about what it really means—that I'm a sinner and deserve God's wrath, but He loves me anyway and sent Jesus to bear the consequences of my sin—we'll find it's a HUGE deal! Throughout history, God's made it a habit of performing mighty works for His people, because He loves us so much and desires to accomplish His purposes through us. This should impact us deeply every day, and when it does, we'll desire to share it with others. As others come to know the Lord, we'll leave a legacy of faith.

- **Why is the gospel such a big deal to you?**
- **What kind of faith legacy are you leaving?**