

GENERATIONS

*Small Group Discussion Notes
Sunday, May 14, 2017*

Introduction:

Who has had the biggest influence on your spiritual development?

Digging Deeper:

Read Psalm 71. After you've read the chapter, read it again being careful to see how God has been faithful in the past, how He is faithful in the present, and how He will be faithful in the future.

Remember the Past:

1. What are some of your earliest thoughts about God? What were the circumstances?
2. If you were writing this Psalm, what are some of the things you would write about of God's faithfulness in the past?

Live in the Present:

3. It would seem like the psalmist is in the midst of some tough times. (Vs. 4, 19-20) How does remembering God's faithfulness in tough times increase our hope?
4. Read Deuteronomy 6:6-7 and Luke 10:27. What are some practical examples of loving God with all your heart? With all your soul? With all your strength? With all your mind?

Impact the Future:

5. Read Psalms 71:17-18 again. In some circles people are told that they should not try to influence the spiritual lives of their children, but rather, that they should be allowed to discover their own beliefs. What are the drawbacks to this approach?
6. What happens when we try to "teach" those who come after us without our own lives marked by an all-consuming love for God?
7. The word "intentional" will be used often in this series. It is the understanding that a spiritual heritage is not passed on unless we are intentional in doing so.
 - What are the messages that you want to communicate clearly to the next generation about God and His faithfulness?
 - What are you doing to demonstrate that God is worth living for?
 - Who are you teaching to follow Christ?

Abide/Love/Bless: What needs to change in your life to be able to more effectively pass on God's truths?