

Called to Live a Legacy

By Edith Pont, M.A., MFT Intern

“We all leave footprints in the sand; the question is, will we be a big heel, or a great soul?”

– Anonymous

You were called to live a legacy! Do you believe that? Or do you find yourself living day by day without any purpose or meaning? Many times when we think of the word legacy, we imagine an old person on a rocking chair surrounded by grandchildren, giving of their wisdom and knowledge from their life’s experience. Our minds automatically tell us that we have a long way to go before we begin to think about what kind of legacy we are leaving. Our society calls us to live hectic and busy lives that little time is left to think about the impact our current actions are having on those around us.

God calls us to a different kind of life; one with purpose, meaning and intention – a legacy. He doesn’t want you just to leave it behind, but to live it on a daily basis. We are called to be intentional about what we do and to influence those around us. We don’t have to wait until we’re old, or wait until we are wiser and more experienced; we can begin to cultivate lasting seeds found in God’s word today to make a lasting difference in eternity.

The law that God has set here on Earth is that we reap what we sow; *“Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.”* (Galatians 6:7-8 NIV) This simply tells us that where we spend most of our time and energy is where we will see results. These fruits or results can be constructive (meaningful, life changing and influential) or they can be destructive (poisonous or life threatening). You have the power to choose what kinds of seeds of legacy you want to leave behind.

I will use the word LEGACY as an acronym to help us remember the seeds (characteristics) that we can begin planting and cultivating today in order to live a life of legacy.

- Love -- Ephesians 5:2
- Encouragement -- Hebrews 3:13
- Generosity -- Proverbs 11:24
- Action -- Jeremiah 1:17
- Courage -- Joshua 1:9
- Yielding to the High King! -- Psalm 46:10

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What will you choose today? Are you going to wait until you find yourself taking your last breath to begin thinking about the legacy that God has called you to live? You are a Woman and Man of Legacy! You were created, called and chosen to live a life of legacy. Not just to **LEAVE** a legacy, but to **LIVE** a legacy. Those are two very different choices. The first is an afterthought, but the latter is intentional. God has called us His workmanship, “*created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*” (Ephesians 2:10) So, begin walking with confidence knowing that God has equipped you with all you need. He will continue to shape and mold you – all you have to do is let go of your fears of failure and begin embracing your life.

Do you want to discover what God’s word has to say about your legacy? Then join me on this journey as we diligently seek the Lord on how to begin planting and cultivating these seeds of LEGACY into our lives. Stay tuned for the next devotional on the first word of the acronym – Love.

Rest in His Word: Colossians 3:12-14

“Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.” (NIV)

Heart Checkup:

- What can I do today to begin being more intentional about my legacy?
- What will others say about me if I were gone?
- What specific calling has God placed in my heart to live out? What’s been holding me back from pursuing that calling?

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