

Family Discipleship Devotional – Legacy of Faith

Read

2 Timothy 1:3–14

Tips before you begin:

- Watch the video attached to this devotional (without your students).
- Begin your time with prayer.
- Have a regularly scheduled time for devotions (consistency is *key*).
- Keep track of time – don't disengage your students by going too long.
- It is preferred that (if possible) the father leads the devotional time.
- Choose a regular place in your home with as few distractions as possible (no TV, etc.).
- Put any and all electronic devices out of reach (phones, tablets, etc.).
- End in prayer.

The dictionary defines a legacy as anything handed down from the past, from an ancestor or predecessor. The heartbeat of Family Discipleship is to look more like Jesus. As this happens within a family, the lasting legacy will be one of faith.

We are going to break down these verses as a family.

Read

**This is a great moment to involve other family members by having them read the passage. The more involved everyone is, the better the interactions will be.*

2 Timothy 1:3–4

Learn

Paul always begins his letters with thanksgiving. He reminds Timothy that he thanks God for him and prays for him daily. Parents, do the same now.

Discuss

- Affirm in your students what you see God doing in and through them, and spend some time in prayer for one another.
- ASK: What are some traits, expressions, or passions you have picked up from us, your parents? What has been passed on to you from generations before (e.g., the love of a sports team, a funny phrase you use, a favorite pastime, or even how you pronounce certain words)?
- ASK: What have you seen us as parents do when it comes to our personal walk with the Lord (reading the Bible in the mornings, praying together at night, etc.)?

**Don't rush this time. Let each student share and make sure you, as a parent, do the same.*

Read

**This is a great moment to involve other family members by having them read the passage.*

2 Timothy 1:5–8

Learn

Paul notes that both he (“my ancestors”) and Timothy (“your grandmother ... your mother”) have a heritage of faith. The legacy that has been passed down is one of faith. Paul does not explain what Timothy’s gift is, which allows the principle here to be seen as applicable to all kinds of spiritual gifts. Such gifts tend to fade in strength when they are not used and encouraged.

Discuss

- Encourage and point out the spiritual gifts you see in one another.
- ASK: What do you think causes fear in us when it comes to our relationship with the Lord? How can we instead have a spirit of power, love and self-control?

Read

**This is a great moment to involve other family members by having them read the passage.*

2 Timothy 1:9–12

Learn

These verses summarize the Gospel for which God’s servants suffer. The verses are a reminder of the power of God, and that He is the Almighty God on whom Christians rely. Paul’s exalted language suggests that such a glorious message is worthy of believers’ suffering. Paul contrasts works, which do not save, with God’s purpose and grace, which bring life. It is this confidence in God that prevents Paul from being ashamed. His boldness arises not from self-confidence but from “God-confidence.” It is from this confidence in God that Paul gives a passionate challenge to continue following in his footsteps.

Discuss

- How are you challenging your students to follow in your footsteps as you follow after Jesus?
- Share how you came to know Jesus. Speak truth to your students and share how you see Jesus working in their lives, or let them know what you are praying for God to do in and through them.
- Spend time talking about what might hinder you from sharing your faith with others. Pray right now, asking God to help you and your family to have confidence to stand for Him.

Read

**This is a great moment to involve other family members by having them read the passage.*

2 Timothy 1:13–14

Learn

Paul speaks of the pattern of sound words that Timothy has learned. He is told to guard what has been entrusted to him (Greek = *tēn parathēkēn mou*, “my deposit”). A deposit is anything laid away or entrusted to another for safekeeping. In its fullest sense, what has been entrusted to us is the Gospel.

Discuss

- What patterns of sound words have you learned?

- What does it mean to guard what has been entrusted to us?
- What would you like for us as a family to learn together?
- What deposit would you like to invest as a family?
- What encourages you and what challenges you in these verses?

Pray

- Take prayer requests from each family member and spend some time praying for each other.

Family Discipleship Resources

- Parent Resources page at prestonwoodstudents.org
- Family Devotional
 - “How to Study the Bible” article
 - <https://replicate.org/what-is-a-hear-journal/>
 - *Foundations* by Robby and Kandi Gallaty
 - Adult, Student and Kids versions
 - <https://replicate.org/foundations/>
 - Right Now Media Content
 - rightnowmedia.org/Search?q=family%20devotion
 - Prestonwood Students – Parent Partner
 - Sundays @ 4:00 p.m. through our texting service
 - Plano Campus
 - JHigh – Text JHPARENT to 74788
 - HS – Text HSPARENT to 74788
 - North Campus
 - JHigh – Text JHPARENT to 55125
 - HS – Text HSPARENT to 55125
 - Español: Text ESPPARENT to 74788
 - Prestonwood Students – Daily Devotional
 - Weekdays @ 7:00 a.m. through our texting service (coordinates with our teaching on the weekend)
 - Text DEVO to 74788
 - *Family Discipleship* by Matt Chandler
 - [amazon.com/Family-Discipleship-Leading-through-Milestones/dp/143356629X](https://www.amazon.com/Family-Discipleship-Leading-through-Milestones/dp/143356629X)

Parent Prayer Points

- Lord, give us insight and wisdom into how to begin doing a devotional with our family. Open our hearts to hear what our students need from us in this and how we can pass on a legacy of faith to our students.
- Lord, open our students’ hearts to desire to begin a family devotional time. Let them not be against but for it, as we want nothing more than having them be more like You. Help us model what that looks like in our home on a daily basis and not just when we do a

family devotional. This must be something that is consistently present in all our lives and not just ours or theirs.

- Lord, give us the courage to fear not. We pray that we would operate out of a spirit of power, love and self-control. We know that fear comes from the Enemy, so we pray against fear. When we do things that cause fear, remind us that it's not from You. What comes from You is freedom and love. Today, we pray for power – the ability to do or act. We pray for the love that Jesus described in John 13. We pray for self-control in how we respond and react to everything when it comes to parenting and raising our students.