

LEGACY BUILDERS (PART 1)
HOW TO LIVE BEYOND OURSELVES
MAKING OUR LIVES THE BEST THEY CAN BE BY MAKING OTHERS LIVES BETTER
11/21/2021

I. Introduction

A. Everybody, deep inside wants to be a positive role model and be thought of and remembered as someone who made other's lives better. People want to live and leave a _____.

B. Though everyone wants to, not everyone is sure how they should do it and some wait too long to think about it.

1. Many people's lives today feel empty because they may have money but lack _____ . They're focused on _____ and success but not enough significance.

2. Living for legacy helps even the elderly be more positive. It helps us find positive hope and strength even in _____ times.

"Those who have a "why" to live can bear with almost any "how." -Viktor Frankl

The purpose of this sermon series is to learn how the Bible teaches we can not only live a great life, but if we live God's way we can live and leave a _____
_____.

C. In the Bible God says some very powerful promises about the legacy He will build through our lives if we follow His ways.

Four reasons to dedicate your life to being a "legacy builder."

1. He will guarantee that our children's children will see the blessings and _____ of our obedience. *"But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children-with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts."* (Psalms 103:17-18 NIV)

2. You will see things given to you _____ to them and through them to others. "An inheritance is something you leave for your descendants; a legacy is something you leave _____ your descendants." -John Maxwell

"I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also." (2 Timothy 1:5 NIV)

3. A legacy is something that is never too _____ to claim and start building in your lives and others. God promises to redeem the negative legacy you were handed and in your old life created, with an opportunity to create a new _____ and legacy to pass on.

"For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect." (1 Peter 1:18-19 NIV)

4. You can trust that the fruit of your efforts and the suffering and sacrifice you go through in your generation will strengthen and set up those spiritual sons and daughter's you disciple and pass the baton to, to see _____ in their generations.

"If we succeed with little sacrifice, it is because others have greatly sacrificed before us. If we sacrifice and don't see much success, it is because we are setting the stage for others to succeed after us." -John Maxwell

II. To become a legacy builder the first thing we must do is to make the decision to live beyond ourselves and _____ beyond ourselves. Legacy builders love people to _____ in Jesus' name. Those

who make the biggest difference in the world are those who are most willing to give up the right to live for _____!

“Listen carefully: Unless a grain of wheat is buried in the ground, dead to the world, it is never any more than a grain of wheat. But if it is buried, it sprouts and reproduces itself many times over. In the same way, anyone who holds on to life just as it destroys that life. But if you let it go, reckless in your love, you’ll have it forever, real and eternal.” (John 12:24-25 MSG)

A. Jesus teaches us that to live a life of legacy (that bears much fruit, that turns a seed into an orchard), we must reverse what the world and flesh tells us is the way to happiness (selfish love) to embrace Jesus’ way, which is _____ - _____ love (“Forgetting ourselves to greatness!”).

B. Real life, happiness, and joy comes ultimately not from money but from _____, not from pleasure but from purpose. The paradox of life is that the more we add value to others, the more value we add to God, _____, our families, and those around us now and in future generations. Unselfish love opens the windows of Heaven for God’s blessings to pour back to you and _____ you to a thousand generations.

III. Key ways to live beyond yourself through a life of unselfish love

A. Love _____. Show love before people deserve it or in spite of what they do to not deserve it. Legacy builders don’t just love most, they love first.

“Love is to will in your soul the good of another before your own to such a degree that you put their needs first and you are willing to do whatever it takes to further their good.” -John Comer

“God showed how much he loved us by sending his one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him. This is real love-not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other.” (I John 4:9-11 NLT)

B. Show love by actions not just by _____. Love isn’t love until love does good, not just intends to. *“If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion-how can God’s love be in that person? Dear children, let’s not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.” (I John 3:17-18 NLT)*

C. Communicate love in a way that brings _____, brings out the best in another person. We love people to life when we love them in a way that honors the image of God in them and empowers them to be who God sees them and waits to empower them to be.

Our job is to love each other into becoming the best God _____ of them, they can be. *“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.” (Hebrews 10:24 NLT)*

D. Realize this love becomes activated in us when we receive and express gratitude for God loving us this way in Jesus. *“We love because He first loved us.” (I John 4:19 NIV)*

The more this love from God is fully realized in us by the help of the Holy Spirit, the more this love from God in us is released _____ us. Gratitude breaks the power of selfishness. Through gratitude we can find in our heart a love that we don’t even feel in our flesh.

- *“The one who realizes that they are forgiven much loves much.” (Luke 7:47)*
- *“For we know how dearly God loves us, because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.” (Romans 5:5 NLT)*

(Answers: I. A. legacy B. meaning, survival, difficult, beautiful legacy C. rewards, imparted, in, late, story, blessing and fruit II. love, life, themselves A. self-giving B. meaning, ourselves, through III. A. unconditionally B. words C. dignity, version D. through)