

A Legacy That Points to Jesus

Primary Passages:

- Deuteronomy 6:5-7 — Loving God and passing faith to the next generation
 - Proverbs 13:20 — The influence of those we walk with
 - 1 Corinthians 15:33 — The impact of our associations
 - 2 Corinthians 5:17 — New life and transformation in Christ
 - 2 Timothy 2:2 — Passing faith on to others
 - John 21:15-19 — Jesus restoring and recommissioning Peter
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Introduction:

Every person leaves something behind. Whether we realize it or not, our lives are shaping the people around us through our words, choices, habits, relationships, and faith. Legacy is not something we begin thinking about at the end of life; it is something we are building every day through ordinary moments of faithfulness.

But every legacy is imperfect. We all carry things we have received from others—both things that have encouraged us and things that have hurt us. The good news of the gospel is that our past does not have to define our future. Through Jesus, God brings grace, redemption, and transformation into our stories.

Throughout this study, we will explore what it means to recognize the legacy we have received, surrender our stories to Christ, allow Him to shape us, and live in a way that leaves behind a legacy that points people toward Jesus.

Day 1 — Legacy Is Built Daily

Deuteronomy 6:5-7

Key Thought:

Legacy is not created in one moment; it is formed through thousands of ordinary moments of faithfulness.

We often think about legacy as something that happens after we are gone. We imagine it as something written in a will, remembered at a funeral, or discussed by those who knew us. But Scripture shows us that legacy is built long before the end of our lives.

Moses instructed God's people to teach His commands in everyday moments—when sitting at home, walking along the way, lying down, and rising up. Faith was not meant to be passed on only through formal instruction. It was meant to be demonstrated through daily life.

The things we consistently do become the things we consistently leave behind. Our conversations, reactions, priorities, and habits all communicate something to the people around us.

Questions:

1. What are some ordinary moments from your life that have shaped who you are today?
2. Who has left a meaningful spiritual legacy in your life? What did they consistently do that influenced you?
3. What do your daily habits communicate about what matters most to you?
4. What is one ordinary moment where you could intentionally reflect the love of God to someone else?

Reflection:

Legacy is not built only through extraordinary accomplishments. It is built through everyday faithfulness. The small decisions we make repeatedly become the story our lives tell.

Consider the question:

“What am I consistently showing others about God through the way I live?”

Daily Prayer:

Lord, help me recognize that my everyday choices matter. Teach me to live faithfully in the ordinary moments so that my life reflects Your love and points others toward You.

Day 2 — Every Legacy Is Imperfect

Deuteronomy 6:5-7

John 21:15-19

Key Thought:

God works through imperfect people, and our failures do not have to define our story. When we think about legacy, we often think about the best parts of someone's life. But every person's story contains both strength and weakness. Every legacy includes moments of faithfulness and moments of failure.

The Bible does not hide the imperfections of the people God used. Scripture shows us people like Peter, who publicly denied Jesus, yet was restored and given a renewed purpose.

The same grace that restored Peter is available to us. God does not require us to have a perfect past before He can use us. He meets us in our brokenness and continues shaping our story.

Questions:

1. When you think about the legacy you received from others, what are some positive things you inherited?
2. Are there things from your past that you need to acknowledge, grieve, or surrender to God?
3. How does Peter's restoration in John 21 demonstrate the grace of Jesus?
4. How does knowing God works through imperfect people change the way you view your own story?

Reflection:

We cannot go back and rewrite our past, but we can allow God to redeem it. Grace does not pretend brokenness never happened. Grace enters our brokenness and declares that it is not the end of the story.

Jesus does not discard imperfect people. He restores them and gives them purpose.

Daily Prayer:

Jesus, thank You that my failures do not have the final word. Help me receive Your grace and allow You to continue transforming my story for Your purposes.

Day 3 — Grace Changes the Story

2 Corinthians 5:17

John 21:15-19

Key Thought:

Through Christ, we are not only shaped by what came before us; we are being transformed by what God is doing in us now.

Many people carry patterns, habits, and struggles they inherited from previous generations. Sometimes we find ourselves repeating things we never intended to repeat. Sometimes we feel trapped by the story we were given.

But the gospel tells us something different.

When someone is in Christ, they become a new creation. Jesus does not simply help us understand our story—He steps into our story. He does not just point out what needs to change—He gives us the power to become different.

Peter's life was changed because Jesus did not leave him defined by his failure. Jesus restored him and redirected his future.

Questions:

1. What are some ways Jesus has already changed your life?
2. Are there areas where you feel defined by your past instead of shaped by Christ?
3. What does it mean that "the past does not get the final word"?
4. How can your transformation through Christ impact the people around you?

Reflection:

Grace is not only about forgiveness for yesterday. Grace is also about transformation today. Jesus changes individuals, and transformed individuals influence families, relationships, churches, and communities. When Christ changes a life, the impact extends beyond that person.

Daily Prayer:

Jesus, thank You for making me new. Help me stop being controlled by my past and become increasingly shaped by Your presence and purpose.

Day 4 — Choose Your Influences Carefully

Proverbs 13:20

1 Corinthians 15:33

Key Thought:

The people and influences we walk with shape the direction of our lives.

Influence is often quiet. We do not always notice it happening, but over time the voices we listen to and the people we walk with shape how we think, respond, and live.

Scripture reminds us that our relationships matter. We become influenced by what we consistently allow close to us.

While we may not be able to choose everything that has shaped us in the past, we do have a choice about what continues shaping us today.

The most important question is not simply, “Who am I walking with?” but:
“Am I walking with Christ?”

Questions:

1. Who are some people who have positively influenced your walk with Jesus?
2. What voices or influences are currently shaping your thoughts and decisions?
3. Are there influences in your life that are moving you closer to Christ? Are there any moving you away from Him?
4. What is one intentional step you can take to remain closer to Jesus?

Reflection:

Other influences may affect our behavior, but Christ transforms our hearts. The closer we walk with Jesus, the more our lives begin to reflect Him.

The people and influences around us matter because they contribute to the legacy we are creating.

Daily Prayer:

Lord, help me be intentional about the influences I allow into my life. Draw me closer to You and surround me with people who encourage me to follow You faithfully.

Day 5 — A Legacy That Continues

2 Timothy 2:2

2 Corinthians 5:17

Key Thought:

A faithful life can continue pointing people toward Jesus long after we are gone. Legacy is not simply about what people remember about us. It is about what continues because of the way we lived.

Paul's words to Timothy reveal a vision of multiplication: what Timothy received was meant to be passed on to others who could continue passing it on.

A life surrendered to Christ is never only about one person. God uses faithful lives to influence others, and those people influence others after them.

Every chair will eventually sit empty. Every title will eventually be passed on. Every accomplishment will eventually fade. But a life that points people toward Jesus can continue making an eternal impact.

Questions:

1. What do you hope people see when they look at the way you live?
2. What is one thing you want to intentionally pass on to others?
3. How can your relationship with Jesus become part of the legacy you leave?
4. What is one step of faithfulness God is inviting you to take today?

Reflection:

We cannot control everything that happens after us, but we can faithfully surrender our lives to God today.

The greatest legacy is not success, recognition, or possessions. The greatest legacy is a life that helps others see Jesus more clearly.

Daily Prayer:

Father, help me live a faithful life that points others toward Jesus. Use my words, actions, relationships, and choices to leave behind a legacy that honors You. Amen.

L.E.G.A.C.Y.

- L - Legacy is inevitable**
- E - Every legacy is imperfect**
- G - Grace redeems our stories**
- A - Associations shape our direction**
- C - Christ changes generations**
- Y - Your influence continues beyond you**