

READINESS OVER HAPPINESS

OUTLASTERS – Part 1

How joyful are those who fear the LORD and delight in obeying his commands. ² Their children will be successful everywhere; an entire generation of godly people will be blessed. ³ They themselves will be wealthy, and their good deeds will last forever... ⁴ They are generous, compassionate, and righteous...⁶ Those who are righteous will be long remembered. Psalm 112:1-4, 6 NLT

- ✦ First generation is marked by strong leadership, economic prosperity, intellectual progress and/or spiritual growth.
- ✦ Second generation inherits something they appreciate but didn't earn. There is often a loss of drive, creativity, and appetite for risk. The main goal often becomes preservation.
- ✦ Third generation has only seen preservation and entrenchment. They often lack vision, passion, and personal identity. It's common to reject the values of those who have gone before them.

In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes. Judges 21:25 NLT

THREE OF THIS GENERATION'S BIGGEST CHALLENGES

- 1) WE **RISK** TOO LITTLE.
- 2) WE **RESCUE** TOO QUICKLY.
- 3) WE **REWARD** TOO FREQUENTLY.

➔ WE NEED TO WORRY LESS ABOUT TODAY'S HAPPINESS AND MORE ABOUT TOMORROW'S READINESS.

HOW DO WE PREPARE THE NEXT GENERATION?

- LEARN HOW TO CREATE **WEALTH** TO USE FOR THE **GLORY** OF GOD.
- CREATE A HUNGER FOR **FIRST-GENERATION** FAITH IN CHRIST.
- CULTIVATE AN INTERNAL **DRIVE** AND ETERNAL **PASSION**.

“And Solomon, my son, learn to know the God of your ancestors intimately. Worship and serve him with your whole heart and a willing mind. For the LORD sees every heart and knows every plan and thought. If you seek him, you will find him... ¹⁰ So take this seriously. The LORD has chosen you to build a Temple as his sanctuary. Be strong, and do the work.” 1 Chronicles 28:9-10 NLT

Questions to ponder:

- Which of the three biggest challenges to this generation might you be guilty of contributing to?
- What changes do you need to make to focus less on today's happiness and more on tomorrow's readiness?
- What's one thing you could pass on to help prepare and equip the next generation?