

## PRAYER

- Pray for the youth to grow in the grace and knowledge of God by being devoted to reading and studying His Word.

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- Intercede for the faith of the youth in God to grow stronger so they can live by the principles of the Bible in this world.

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- Ask God for wisdom, insight, and grace as you take part in discipling and mentoring the next generation.

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Week 1

## NOTES

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## CONNECT

- What is one activity you enjoy doing with your kids/parents/group mates in church?
- Have you ever participated in a relay race? What happened?
- What is one thing about your kids/group mates in church/parents that you are thankful to God for?

## WORD

...<sup>3</sup>what we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us. <sup>4</sup>We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done. <sup>5</sup>He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children, <sup>6</sup>so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. <sup>7</sup>Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands.

Psalm 78:3-7

## WHAT *What does the Bible say?*

In the Bible, we can see the heart of God for young people. As a church, we value the next generation. We can live out this principle by teaching our children, by reaching the students in the campuses. Knowing that we have the responsibility to pass on the gospel to the next generation, how can we ensure this?

- **Pass on God's truth from generation to generation.**

*<sup>5</sup>He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children, <sup>6</sup>so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children.*

Psalm 78:5,6

Parents need to train their children not only so they may know God's truth, but also that they may in turn pass it on to the next generation. Just as we should not be content with being mere listeners of the Word, we should see to it that the generations after us are able to live out the truths from God's Word. In what ways can we pass on the truth to the young ones?

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- **Show the young people how to put their confidence in God.**

*Then they would put their trust in God . . .*

Psalm 78:7

To trust means to depend on just as hipbones and thighs are depended on for the strength and firmness of the body. Our goal in teaching the youth

is for them to put their faith and confidence in the Living God and have a relationship with Him. How can you model trusting God to the youth?

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- **Teach the youth to keep God's commands.**

*<sup>7</sup>. . . and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands. <sup>8</sup>They would not be like their forefathers—a stubborn and rebellious generation, whose hearts were not loyal to God, whose spirits were not faithful to him.*

Psalm 78:7,8

The purpose of knowing God's Word is to lead us to obedience. And while it is not natural for us to obey, following God's laws is a product of knowing and trusting God. This is an area where we need to train the youth (Proverbs 22:6) and even ourselves in. Why would we want to obey God's Word? What benefits do we get by doing it (Deuteronomy 28)?

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## SO WHAT *What is the relevance of the Word to my life?*

- In what ways have you been mentoring and discipling your kids or the young people you know?
- How does your life reflect obedience and faith in God? How do you think can your life inspire the youth?
- How do you see the importance of teaching and preparing the next generation?

## NOW WHAT *How do I apply the Word to my life?*

- In what ways can we teach the Word of God to our children or young people?
- How can we help the youth develop a personal relationship with Jesus by faith so they can have godly confidence and conviction?
- How can we set a godly example of obedience to God and to authorities to our children or the young people we know?