

Value Statements: "Investing in the next generation"

Getting Started

When you think back to your elementary days as a child, what are some of the differences between that generation and that ones today?

- socially
- technology
- parentally
- educationally

When you were in your teens, was there anybody who poured into your life? Maybe a coach or teacher? If so, what role did they place and how did they invest in you?

What are some of the stresses that this new generation is having to deal with that we didn't?

Going Deeper

What are some things that people put their hope in other than God and his church? Why can't government, career, your friends, etc. be the hope of the world? One pastor often uses this phrase, "The church is the hope of the world?" Would you agree with the statement? Why or why not?

King David asked his people for gifts to help build the temple where they can worship. Praying to God, he says "1 *Chronicles* 29:16–17"

Even David—a king—views himself as a steward for God. He knew that all he had, was given to him by God.

When we give with thanksgiving, it becomes a form of worship.

We will hit roadblocks and challenges, but what we do today—what we focus on and invest in—determines the future we will help create.

How willing are you to take risks to support the generation next in line to continue building God's Kingdom?

What do these verses speak about the upcoming generation if we invest in them?

- Deuteronomy 6:2-9
- Psalm 22:30
- Psalm 78:4
- Psalm 145:4

Comparatively, how much time **Time and Money** do people invest in their children in these different ways? Is it balanced or does it reflect the values we want for our children?

- Education, Private School, Tutors
- Sports
- Arts: ie Dance, Art class.
- Entertainment: ie. Movies, shopping etc.
- God

Read Galatians 6:7-10

What does these verses say about investing in the next generation so they understand the value of God and loving others?

Discuss different ways we can be more intentional at investing in our children and others kids, as they grow in their walk with God?

The early church was know for rallying together in community to support each other. Read <u>Acts 2:42-47</u>

Are there elements in these verses that we could practice more regularly that would be a model for the next generation?

Take a minute to pray with your group about the role of "Investing in the Next Generation" and how it will play out in your life as you move forward.