



We can tell the next generation what they need to believe and do, but unless we model it for them, we do nothing to help them.

The next generation is searching for someone they trust to model the way for them.

Character + Consistency + Courage = Credibility. Credibility is the currency by which we lead.

SERIES BIG IDEA:
Live a faith that stands out in a culture shutting God out.

I am modeling my life after someone..

The prophet Jeremiah was a model of unwavering faithfulness to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.

We want to be a model our children choose to follow.

TEACHING BIG IDEA:
To see it in them, they must see it in me.

Seen priorities trump spoken priorities.

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.
Matthew 6:33 (NIV)

Define your "Rule of Life:" The rhythms of your day, week, and year that elevate your priorities.

What we model in trials is what stands out.

Trials don't change our "Rule of Life."
The "Rule of Life" sustains us through the troubles, temptations, and tough situations.



¹ You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. ² And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others.

³ Join with me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴ No one serving as a soldier gets entangled in civilian affairs, but rather tries to please his commanding officer.

⁵ Similarly, anyone who competes as an athlete does not receive the victor's crown except by competing according to the rules. ⁶ The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops. ⁷ Reflect on what I am saying, for the Lord will give you insight into all this.

⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, ⁹ for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. ¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

2 Timothy 2:1-10 (NIV)

We must become the model of faith that we want to see in the next generation.



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

What we say to the next generation doesn't stick like what they see in us. The next generation is looking for those with integrity and credibility to model their lives and faith after.

Credibility is earned through a consistency in character and courage. The next generation will follow those who have the most credibility. This is why we must remain faithful to following Jesus even when others don't.

The next generation must see our faith in action before we will see it in them.

We must remain faithful to our priorities. We can speak about our priorities, but that is not as powerful as when they see us live according to our priority—Jesus being first in our lives. We can create a rule of life: a set of daily, weekly, and annual rhythms to keep Jesus as the priority of our lives and households.

We must also model our faith in trials. Our faith stands out when we are faithful in troubles, temptations, and tough situations.

TALK-IT-OVER:

Who have been models for how you live your life? What made them those people?

What does the way you live your life say about your priorities?

What is one thing you could do to shift closer to a life where Jesus is your main priority?

What is one next step you need to take today?

Who do you need to tell about what you've learned?

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING:

- Day 1) 1 Peter 2:9-12
- Day 2) Romans 6:1-14
- Day 3) 1 Corinthians 15:3-8, 56-58
- Day 4) Galatians 5:22-25
- Day 5) Ephesians 6:10-17
- Day 6) Acts 1:6-9