



LEGACY MISSION NOTEBOOK
awana.org/grandparents

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Introduction

VISION

- What the Bible Reveals
- The Private Pains of Grandparenting
- Defining a Legacy Grandparent

EQUIPPING

- Two Reminders
- The Indifferent Parent
- When Your Adult Child is Just Plain Wrong
- The Dilemma of Distance
- Telling Your Story
- Praying for Grandkids

SUMMARY

- The Legacy Mission Vision

WELCOME

Welcome to the Legacy Mission webinar! I'm Larry Fowler, and my wife Diane and I are excited to have you join us as we hone our adventure as grandparents. You'll figure out quickly that we are still learning ourselves; we certainly don't have all the answers to the challenges facing us today, but we do have direction. We have thought through the issue of intentionally influencing grandchildren, and are pleased to share what we are learning with you.

It is our prayer that you will deepen friendships, enjoy discussions, and have some fun while we learn together.

In this first-of-its-kind video seminar, we have a vision to not only encourage greater effectiveness with grandchildren, but also to figure out how we can bless the local church as well.

We hope that, if you are not already, you will become more than a grandparent; you will be a Legacy Grandparent that is on a mission. Our definition that drives this seminar is:

"Legacy Grandparents are committed to passing on and perpetuating their faith by overlaying the influence of the parents with a secondary, but incredibly powerful impact."

Please give us feedback after the seminar. It will help us improve what we are doing!



Larry

Executive Director of Global Networking

I BELIEVE

Kids NEED
grandparents

Grandparents
have incredible
power!

It's time to leave
your greatest
mark on the
world.

ONE GRANDPARENT'S STORY

"What examples did you have for grandparents?"

Write any notes here:

1 VISION

WHAT THE BIBLE REVEALS

A GENERATION-TO-GENERATION PATTERN

Then we Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will praise You forever; from generation to generation we will recount Your praise. –Psalm 79:13, NIV



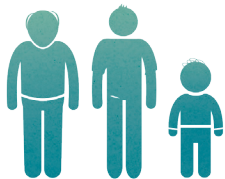
The _____ approach

- _____ the faith

One generation will commend Your works to another; they will tell of Your mighty acts. –Psalm 145:4, NIV

- _____ the faith

Tell it to your children, and let your children tell it to their children, and their children to the next generation. –Joel 1:3, NIV



In the diagram to the left, draw arrows to illustrate the “relay baton” approach.

A MULTI-GENERATIONAL VISION



The _____ approach

- Teaching two generations

Teach them to your children and their children after them.

–Deuteronomy 4:9b, NIV

- Thinking four generations

Nations will fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth will fear Your glory. For the LORD builds up Zion; He appears in His glory; He regards the prayer of the destitute and does not despise their prayer. Let this be recorded for a generation to come, so that a people yet to be created may praise the LORD. –Psalm 102:15-18, ESV

...He (God) commanded our forefathers to teach their children, 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, NIV

In the verses above, underline each generation that you see mentioned.



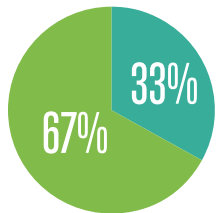
In the diagram to the left, draw arrows to illustrate the “Olympic torch” approach.

How has your understanding changed about the responsibilities of grandparents after examining these verses?

THE PRIVATE PAINS OF GRANDPARENTING

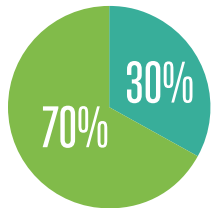
How is it going among Christian families in America?

WHAT THE FACTS REVEAL



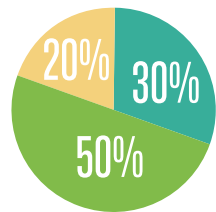
GRIEVING GRANDPARENTS

- Our adult children: 2/3 of us have an adult child who has _____



15 YEARS FROM NOW

Take a survey:
 What percent of adult children in the family units represented at your table are not walking with God? _____



25 YEARS FROM NOW

- Our grandchildren:
 70% are _____
 upon leaving their homes.

In the boxes below, write the name(s) of your grandchildren. Then follow the instructions given to you:

Grandchild...

1 _____	6 _____
2 _____	7 _____
3 _____	8 _____
4 _____	9 _____
5 _____	10 _____

So how do we respond?

At your tables, share your reaction to these numbers. You may want to write some thoughts down here: _____

HOPE FROM SCRIPTURE

THE LOST SHEEP

"Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.'" –Luke 15:4-6, NIV

- The point?: _____ pursues the lost sheep even when

DEFINING A LEGACY GRANDPARENT

ARE **COMMITTED TO PASSING ON**
AND **PERPETUATING** THEIR FAITH
BY **OVERLAYING** THE INFLUENCE OF
THE PARENTS, *WITH A*
SECONDARY, BUT INCREDIBLY
POWERFUL IMPACT.

Today – are you ready to be a legacy grandparent? In your group, discuss the description (above), and write your notes below:

A LEGACY GRANDPARENT IS ONE THAT IS **BEYOND...**

...SPOILING One who is focused upon intentionally influencing future generations for good and for God –

This means you will...

- Build the relationships necessary for influence
- Look for and create opportunities for influence

...FAILURE One who uses his/her own failure (whatever it may be) as a tool of influence –

This means you will...

- Be real about your own story
- Tell it at appropriate times to your grandchildren

...HURT One who sets aside past hurts by an adult child and offers grace for the future –

This means you will...

- Forgive and ask for forgiveness
- Offer reconciliation

...RETIREMENT One who develops a plan to overcome barriers –

This means you will...

- Be willing to start something new
- Begin to make the changes necessary to become that godly influence

For personal reflection: look at the points under each “*This means you will...*” and star those that you could start working on now.

THE PRAYER OF A LEGACY GRANDPARENT

Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, O God, till I declare Your power to the next generation, Your might to all who are to come. –Psalm 71:18, NIV

2 EQUIPPING

DEALING WITH OBSTACLES

#1: ROUGH RELATIONSHIPS

The #1 barrier to influencing grandkids is a less-than-harmonious relationship with their parents, our adult children.

- The parents are not cooperating.
- The parents are just plain *wrong*.
- The parents and grandparents are in active conflict.

The Control/Influence Principle

Remember this principle when the parents (*your adult children*) won't cooperate.

- Parenting is the process of _____ go.
- Therefore, as a grandparent, you have _____ control.
- The more you attempt to _____, the more you lose _____.
- Influence comes through a _____, control through _____.
- The _____ of our influence is directly to proportionate to the _____ of our relationship.
- Focus on constructive _____, not destructive _____.

The Grace/ Truth Challenge

Take this challenge when the parents are just plain wrong!

• *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. –John 1:14, ESV*

• We may be the only “Jesus” in our adult children’s lives: so like Him, we want to be _____ of grace and _____ of truth.

• “Truth” statements vs. “grace” statements:

• **Truth statements sound like...**

• **Grace statements sound like...**

• If they need to hear the _____, they may only hear if you offer _____ first.

Personal reflection: In my situation, what needs to lead? Write “grace” and truth” in the arrows below according to what you believe your strategy needs to be.

Remember:
advice that
is not asked
for will likely
be taken as
criticism.

THE STARTING LINE STANCE



The thing I have learned from this session, and what I am going to do about it, is...

DEALING WITH OBSTACLES

#2: THE DISTANCE DILEMMA

When distance becomes the big obstacle, take the initiative in communicating with your grandkids, but remember to...

- ...communicate the way that _____ for them.

- ...communicate in a way that is _____ for them.

- ...plan your visits so that it is meaningful for *them*

- Consider moving

INFLUENCE YOUR GRANDKIDS BY TELLING YOUR STORY

You are the holder of the family history! Be intentional about when and what you share about it:

Your grandchildren need...

- Identity – it needs to come through _____
- Wisdom – it can come through family _____
- Acceptance – it can come through family _____

How to share family stories:

- Compile your family story through pictures
- Compile a family history
- Visit ancestral homes and sites, but especially churches and places with spiritual significance

INFLUENCE YOUR GRANDKIDS BY PRAYING!

Remembering 4 things can help you become more effective in praying for your grandkids.

- 1 Pray regularly _____
- 2 Let them know you're praying _____
- 3 Ask them for requests _____
- 4 Pray earnestly _____

IN SUMMARY

Our desire is that, as a result of this webinar...

- Every attendee will take a significant step toward becoming more *intentional* in influencing their grandchildren spiritually.

ACTION: Decide today what you will do to “step up your game” with your grandkids.

- All will become advocates for launching a grandparenting ministry in their churches.

ACTION: Talk to someone about initiating one of the following in your church.

- Grandparenting small groups
- Grandparenting classes and seminars
- Grandparents in the church

- We will become influencers not only with our own grandchildren, but also with other children that God gives us opportunity to bless.

ACTION: Adopt a family in your church or community and be a blessing to other peoples’ grandchildren.

ACTION: Participate in the Awana Reach a Child campaign—we asked that you consider providing for the financial support of two children; but would you consider more? Go to awana.org/grandparents-gifts to donate online.

REACH A CHILD BY GIVING TO AWANA

Personal Information

<input type="text"/>		
FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	
<input type="text"/>		
STREET ADDRESS	STATE	ZIP
<input type="text"/>		
EMAIL		

Church Information

<input type="text"/>		
CHURCH NAME (church you are affiliated with)		
<input type="text"/>		
STREET ADDRESS	STATE	ZIP
<input type="text"/>		

We are pleased to contribute to Awana to reach more kids. Our donation is...

\$20 Reaches 2 Kids
\$ _____ Amount
_____ Kids Reached

We can do more than that! We pledge to give each month...

\$10 \$20 \$50 \$100 \$ _____ (your amount)

To donate online go to awana.org/grandparents-gifts, or mail your donation to : Awana, 1 E. Bode Rd. Streamwood, IL. 60107



INTENTIONALLY INFLUENCING
YOUR GRANDCHILDREN
TO FOLLOW CHRIST



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