

VICTORY AT HOME

FEBRUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER



It's All About the Generations!

A recent survey conducted by the Pew Research Center found that nearly **1 out of every 5 people, almost 20%**, lived in a home that had multi-generations. As of 2016 nearly 64 million people fill this growing category! **That's up from 17 percent in 2009 and 19 percent in 2014.** The study defined multi-generational living as including two or more adult generations under the same roof, or grandparents and grandchildren younger than 25.

There are a multitude of reasons behind this statistic. It could be for financial reasons (unemployment, under employment or just trying to help get a head start). It could be due to a family crisis (divorce, separation or medical assistance after a trauma) or some other unforeseen circumstance. Whatever the case, God has a plan for this time in your life.



The children of Israel were given a model for generational living. As slaves in Egypt, the descendants of Jacob remembered the stories of their ancestors and made sure to verbally tell their children about their heritage and God's plan for them as His chosen people. In the midst of their new freedom, God knew that His people would easily be caught up in a new way of life and forget about Him. Yahweh gave Moses the Law to instruct the Hebrews of what sin looked like and commanded them to talk to their children about God's goodness at every chance they got so they would not so easily slip into the sin of their forefathers.(Deuteronomy 6 & 11).

Almost 1500 years later, the Apostle Paul, spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ and the new covenant, was still practicing Deuteronomy 6. Even though he did not have any of his own biological children, Paul influenced hundreds of men and women, young and old with the Gospel message through the mechanism of generational discipleship. By Paul's encouragement and example, Aquila and Priscilla (Acts 18) opened their home and started to share God's goodness through the ministry of God's Word, acts of kindness and service.

The life of Timothy is another perfect example of someone influenced by generational discipleship. Paul reminds us in 2 Timothy 1:5 that he remembered the faith that filled Timothy because of how his mother and grandmother shared it with Timothy. That's what we are talking about! Sharing your faith so you, your children and grandchildren will be known as followers of Jesus and people who can help others grow as well. Paul goes on to encourage Timothy in this multi-generational discipleship process, 2 Timothy 2:2 Paul instructs his protegee– *"You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others."*

Since all first century Jews understood the Torah (first 5 books of the Bible) and what it said in Deuteronomy 6, any good news about a good God would be something they talked about. So, if you're counting, we see here that at least four generations will hear the Good News of Jesus Christ. Paul (1) just told Timothy (2) to pass on the Good News of truth to other trustworthy people (3). And because they are trustworthy people who will pass it along, that makes 4!

So for the next three weeks, let's see what we can do to "up" our discipleship game when it comes to your family and see how they will respond. Do you have a Timothy in your house?



GOD CREATED FAMILIES

PRESCHOOL

WEEK 1

GOD CREATED FAMILIES - GENESIS 2:18-24

READ Genesis 2:18-24 We are learning that God Created Families. Today we learned Adam and Eve were the first husband and wife in the Bible—the very first family!

EXPLORE TOGETHER Make a simple family tree with your child. There are many great websites that can give you examples to get you started! Put your child's name on the page first. Draw lines out from there to show your child's siblings, along with you and your spouse. Then add grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Talk about how all of these people are part of the family God made for your child. Spend some time praying for your family with your child, thanking God for giving you family.

Prayer Time - Dear God, thank You for the families you have given each of us. Just like You made each of us special and different, our families are special and different too. Thank You for loving us all the same. In Jesus name, Amen!

WEEK 2

TRAIN UP A CHILD - DEUTERONOMY 6

READ Deuteronomy 6 Today we learned a family is the people who love and care for us and teach us about Jesus.

EXPLORE TOGETHER Deuteronomy 6 tells us to teach our children about God when we stand up, when we sit down, when we eat, and when we play. It is good to pray with our children at mealtimes and bedtimes, but we should also use everyday situations to show God to your child. Talk about how our words and actions should please God. Be intentional about bringing God into conversations in places and situations you haven't in the past, like at the grocery store or during your child's bath time. Make talking about God a normal occurrence in your family.

Prayer Time - Dear God, thank You for making families. Thank You for the people who teach us more about You. Help us learn more about You every day. In Jesus name, Amen!

WEEK 3

CHILDREN ARE A GIFT FROM GOD - PSALM 127:3-5

READ PSALM 127:3-5 All month long we have talked about how God Created Families. This week in VicKids, we learned children are a gift from God to their families.

EXPLORE TOGETHER Take a family trip to the zoo, to a lake to feed the ducks, or make a simple bird feeder using a pinecone with some peanut butter in the tips of the cone. Another option is to go to your local library and find books that show and describe different animal families. While doing one of these, remind your child how God created human families and animal families. Remind your child that he or she is a gift from God.

Prayer Time - Dear God, thank You so much for each of these children. Thank You for the gift they are to the families You created. You are a good giver of gifts. Thank You for loving us in this way. In Jesus name, Amen!

WEEK 4

GENERATION TO GENERATION - 2 TIMOTHY 1:5, 3:14-17

READ 2 Timothy 1:5; 3:14-17, Today we learned families are different from one another, but God created each one.

EXPLORE TOGETHER Make a variety of cookies with your child. Discuss the differences in the cookies, but explain that they are still cookies. Ask what makes each one special. Relate the various cookies to the many types of families there are. Some families have a mom and dad living in the same home. Some families don't have children. Some children live with their grandparents. Some children only live with one parent and some families are just a single person.

Prayer Time - Dear God, thank You for making families. Thank You for the people who teach us more about You. Help us to be bold this week as we show Your love to our families. In Jesus name, Amen!

FAMILY MATTERS

ELEMENTARY

GOD CREATED MARRIAGE - GENESIS 2:18-24

WEEK 1

READ Genesis 2:18-24 This week in VicKids your student learns about the very first family in the Bible. They learned about Adam and Eve and God's plan for marriage. They also learned about how much of the Bible points to Jesus and that God's plan for husband and wife in marriage is a reflection of Jesus' love for us. How Jesus treats us should be the way we treat others, especially in marriage.

EXPLORE TOGETHER Take time this week to talk with your student about what it means to love, honor and respect one another. Read Ephesians 5 and talk about how we are to love one another as Christ loved the Church and gave His life for "her". Jesus represents the groom and the church represents His bride. Talk with your student about how they can demonstrate what it means to love, honor and respect others even if they are not married. This is a great way to prepare them for more relationships as they grow older.

Pray - God, I thank you that You have given us the best example of love, honor and respect, by sending us Your Son, Jesus. Help us to grow in these areas so that we can be a spotless bride for Him. In Jesus name, Amen!

BIBLICAL FAMILIES - ESTHER 1-10

WEEK 2

READ ESTHER 1:10 This week in VicKids your student learns about how God can use all kinds of different families to do His work. Esther is the main reading, but the life of Timothy in the New Testament and Joseph from Genesis are also great references to talk about how God uses different kinds of families for his purposes.

EXPLORE TOGETHER Take time this week to talk with your student about someone in your immediate or extended family that you have seen God do something amazing in their life. Pray and ask God to show you where He was in that person's life and what happened that was a "God-thing". It may even be YOU! Help your student see what the "before God" story was and how He used the situation to show Himself to that person. To God be the Glory!

Pray - God, I thank you for your Word and the amazing stories of how You transformed the lives of the families in the Bible. Thank You for helping my family to be used by You to bring you Glory and make Your Son Jesus famous in the lives of all our family! In Jesus name, Amen!

GENERATIONAL DISCIPLESHIP - DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9, 11:18 & PSALM 78:4-6

WEEK 3

READ DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9, 11:18 AND PSALM 78:4-6 This week in VicKids your student learns about traditions and how discipleship in our faith walk needs to be passed down from one generation to the next just like a family tradition. It's so important that God tells the children of Israel about it many times before he lets them enter the Promised Land!

EXPLORE TOGETHER Take time this week to talk with your student about some family traditions that you have and maybe some that you would like to start. Talk with them about what generations mean and how your generation is different than theirs. What is the biggest difference? Ask them if they understand the word "discipleship". Discipleship is the process of helping to form someone into the likeness of Jesus. Ask them if they feel like this is a family tradition or not. If not, NOW is the best time to start helping them to grow and be more like Jesus. VicKids has all kinds of resources to help you. Just ask one of our staff!

Pray - God, I thank you for reminding the children of Israel about the importance of generational discipleship. Help us to grow in this area so that we can pass on our faith and your Good News to those that come after us! In Jesus name, Amen!

ADOPTIVE DISCIPLESHIP - ACTS 18

WEEK 4

READ ACTS 18 This week in VicKids your student learns about what it means to be taught about Jesus by someone other than their parent or adult family member. It's called adoptive discipleship and it happened all through the Bible!

EXPLORE TOGETHER Adoptive discipleship is what happens when someone else or in addition to your family member helps to pass on and grow the faith of a younger generation. 2 Timothy 2:2 has Paul telling Timothy about what this looks like. Read with your student and talk about what this could look like for you and your family. What other ways does Adoptive Discipleship happen in your family?

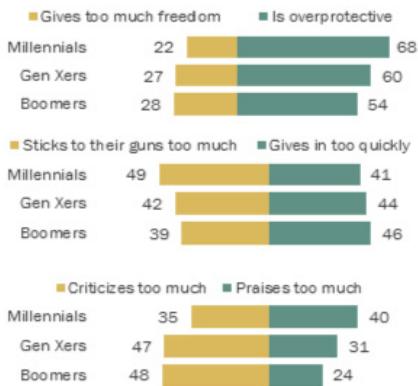
Pray - God, I thank you for all the people and ways our family has been influenced by Adoptive Discipleship. Thank You for the church you have planted us in and the people that help us grow! In Jesus name, Amen!

PARENTING TRENDS

victoryathome.com

Parenting styles across generations

% saying they are a parent who sometimes ...



Note: Voluntary responses of "Neither," "Both equally" and "Don't know/Refused" responses not shown.

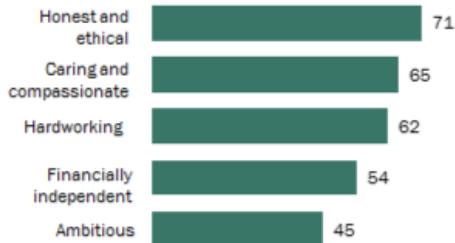
Source: Pew Research Center survey of parents with children under 18, Sept. 15-Oct. 13, 2015

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q65e-c

Honesty, compassion, hard work trump financial independence, ambition when it comes to parents' hopes for their kids

% saying it is extremely important to them that their children be ___ as adults



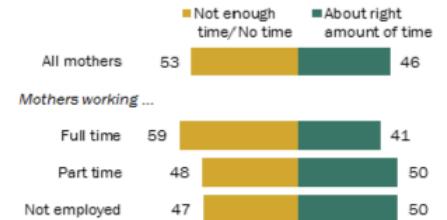
Source: Pew Research Center Survey of parents with children under 18, Sept. 15-Oct. 13, 2015

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q23a-e

Most full-time working moms say they don't have enough free time for friends, hobbies

% saying they have ___ away from kids to spend with friends or pursuing hobbies



Note: "No time" was a voluntary response. "Don't know/Refused" responses not shown.

Source: Pew Research Center survey of parents with children under 18, Sept. 15-Oct. 13, 2015

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Q15

Campus Calendar

NORCROSS

- 02/09 - Victory at Home - 10:00 am
Parent Child Dedication Ceremony
- 02/09 - VicKids Volunteer Orientation - 5:45pm
Auditorium 'A'

HAMILTON MILL

- 03/03 - Victory at Home - 1:00pm
Parent Child Dedication Workshop
- 03/10 - Victory at Home
Parent Child Dedication In-Service Ceremony

MIDTOWN

Victory Midtown is continuing to meet weekly at The Gathering Spot. With the new momentum of this campus, Vickids Children's Ministry would like to invite you to serve with us! Please connect with Pastor Kendra or any VicKids team member to learn more about this opportunity!

Campus Service Times

NORCROSS - SAT 6 PM, SUN 9 & 11 AM, 1 PM
HAMILTON MILL - SUN 9 & 11 AM, 1 PM
MIDTOWN - SUN 9 & 11 AM, 1 PM

"There is no doubt that it is around the family and the home that all the greatest virtues, the most dominating virtues of humankind, are created, strengthened and maintained."

Winston Churchill

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them." Romans 8:28 NLT

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Additional Resources

victoryatl.com/athomenewsletter/