



Key References:

Psalm 71:18 (ESV)

¹⁸ So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.

Genesis 12:1–2 (NLT)

The LORD had said to Abram, “Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family, and go to the land that I will show you. ² I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others.

“My question for you this morning is: do your kids see you chasing greener grass all the time? You see we dream in gardens, but God calls us to deserts. He calls us to be the oasis in a desert. But some of us, we don’t ever get an opportunity to be the water in the desert because we’re always chasing the gardens and the greener grass.” - Wes Holmes #1

“We love breakthrough. We’re a breakthrough culture. [...] But, I think God is more interested in grow-through. [...] Breakthrough exalts a moment, but grow-through sees a process. You and I are called to grow-through” – Wes Holmes #2

Philippians 4:11–13 (NIV)

¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

1 – GOING FROM MOMENTS TO MOTION

Read Genesis 12:1-2. Out of this scripture Wes said: *“If you’re in business you know what ‘calculated risk’ means. But Abram didn’t take calculated risks – Abram simply said yes to God.”* **What’s the difference between a calculated risk and just saying ‘yes’ to God? Do you hear God on a regular basis?**

Can you think of a time where God spoke to you and you stepped forward in faith without knowing the whole picture? What happened?

2 – BEING CONTENT IN THE DESERT

Read the quote #1 from Wes. **What’s the difference between a garden and a desert from this? What’s the difference between our hopes and desires for the future and where God actually wants to position us?**

Has God ever called you into a desert? What are the deserts that surround us?

Do our kids see us content in the wrong things or satisfied in God? What garden-idols do you feel you need to give up running after?

Read the quote #2 from Wes. **What do you think our Christian culture finds most difficult about grow-through?**

Read Philippians 4:11-13. **What do you find challenging about this?**

3 – RAISING UP THE NEXT GENERATION

Read Psalm 71:18. **In your upbringing how was God proclaimed to you by the generation that came before?**

Wes said; *“The second we stop building a church, with God, for the next generation, is the second we start dying as a community”*. **Do you think this is true? What is your part in raising up the next generation?**

Do you remember a person who had a significant effect on your spiritual upbringing – what did they do?

Growing up what’s the biggest thing that you could have used more of spiritually? How do you think God could use you to build the next generation?

Additional References:

Psalm 139:11–16 (NLT)

¹¹ I could ask the darkness to hide me and the light around me to become night— ¹² but even in darkness I cannot hide from you. To you the night shines as bright as day. Darkness and light are the same to you. ¹³ You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴ Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. ¹⁵ You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. ¹⁶ You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.

Jude 3 (ESV)

³ Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.

2 Kings 20:12–19 (ESV)

¹² At that time Merodach-baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent envoys with letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he heard that Hezekiah had been sick. ¹³ And Hezekiah welcomed them, and he showed them all his treasure house, the silver, the gold, the spices, the precious oil, his armory, all that was found in his storehouses. There was nothing in his house or in all his realm that Hezekiah did not show them. ¹⁴ Then Isaiah the prophet came to King Hezekiah, and said to him, “What did these men say? And from where did they come to you?” And Hezekiah said, “They have come from a far country, from Babylon.” ¹⁵ He said, “What have they seen in your house?” And Hezekiah answered, “They have seen all that is in my house; there is nothing in my storehouses that I did not show them.” ¹⁶ Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, “Hear the word of the LORD: ¹⁷ Behold, the days are coming, when all that is in your house, and that which your fathers have stored up till this day, shall be carried to Babylon. Nothing shall be left, says the LORD. ¹⁸ And some of your own sons, who will come from you, whom you will father, shall be taken away, and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.” ¹⁹ Then Hezekiah said to Isaiah, “The word of the LORD that you have spoken is good.” For he thought, “Why not, if there will be peace and security in my days?”

“It doesn't matter how you became a Christian or how radical you used to be. Where are you now? Because who you are now is who your kids see. There might have been a time in your life where God really had your gaze. There was a softness there, but time and things happen. God wants to remind us who we are before all the cool things happened in our lives.” – **Wes Holmes**

Colossians 1:24–29 (NIV)

²⁴ Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. ²⁵ I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness—²⁶ the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the Lord's people. ²⁷ To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. ²⁹ To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me.