



Key References:

Psalm 78:4, 6-7 (NLT)

⁴We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord, about his power and his mighty wonders.⁶ so the next generation might know them— even the children not yet born— and they in turn will teach their own children.⁷ So each generation should set its hope anew on God, not forgetting his glorious miracles and obeying his commands.

Acts 11:23 (NIV)

When he arrived and saw what the grace of God had done, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts.

Acts 16:40 (NIV)

After Paul and Silas came out of the prison, they went to Lydia's house, where they met with the brothers and sisters and encouraged them. Then they left.

Acts 9:26–28 (ESV)

²⁶And when he had come to Jerusalem, he attempted to join the disciples. And they were all afraid of him, for they did not believe that he was a disciple. ²⁷But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles and declared to them how on the road he had seen the Lord, who spoke to him, and how at Damascus he had preached boldly in the name of Jesus. ²⁸So he went in and out among them at Jerusalem, preaching boldly in the name of the Lord.

Acts 11:25–26 (ESV)

²⁵So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, ²⁶and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians.

Acts 12:25 (ESV)

²⁵And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had completed their service, bringing with them John, whose other name was Mark.

In the formative years of your faith, perhaps in youth groups or elsewhere, who was the most influential person who helped you in your faith journey? What did they do? How old were they?

Read Psalm 78:4,6-7. What specific instructions are we given here? What would happen if our generation doesn't to this well?

1 – TEACHING THE WORD

On Sunday Katie said: “It can be daunting to think of what the next generation faces”. What are some of those faith battles that the next may face? What from the actions in Psalm 78 will help them through?

What different ways does a church teach the Word to the next generation? What is your part to play in this?

2 – ENCOURAGING THEM

Katie referenced Acts 11:23, 15:32, 16:60 & 20:2 where scripture shows believers encouraging those being brought up. What is the difference between teaching the word and encouraging the next generation?

Katie used these three words to explain encouragement: *support*, *confidence*, and *hope*. How were these things given to you and how can you pass them along? What difference do these things bring?

3 – BRINGING THEM ALONG

In what different ways did Barnabas raise up Saul/Paul? Read Acts 9:25-28, 11:25-26, 12:25 to answer.

How important is the simple act of bringing-along the next gen? What are examples of how we each can be doing this?

Do we ever graduate from the need to be brought along and encouraged? Who have you given access to speak authoritatively into your life? Who are you following?

What three words did Jesus say to the disciples when he first called them? *Matthew 4:19 ESV / NIV*. From this how is discipleship intentional both a top-down and bottom-up relationship? What happens if this goes in just one direction?