

Both Moses and King David cared for the flock of God. These men were not perfect, but the over-arching picture of their life was a desire to honor the God who called them. A true shepherd will lead fearlessly (and fiercely) as they know God will ultimately be the One to hold them accountable. Jesus says: "I tell you the truth, anyone who sneaks over the wall of a sheepfold, rather than going through the gate, must surely be a thief and a robber! But the one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep... After he has gathered his flock, he walks ahead of them...(John 10:1-2, 4a). A true shepherd is out front—often a scary place to be.

4. Let us pray for our spiritual leaders out in front of the flock. Those who have truly been called by God have a lot of responsibility. They need our prayers. Ask the Lord to surround them with holy protection, "for we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 6:12).

Pray for Christ Church and for GENERATIONZ – for people to come to know Christ and for lives to be forever changed. Acknowledge that everything we have belongs to the Lord and give Him the glory!



The Why?

Text: I Chronicles 29: 3-9, Acts 13: 36

The Plain Truth

**Releasing _____ from our hands releases
_____ hold on our _____ so God can
raise our faith!**

- A) The Problem is less than _____ of Millennial or the Y Generation is attending church.**
- B) Christianity is always one _____ away from becoming _____.**

Here is what we believe God has called us to do....

- 1) To Raise _____**
- 2) To Raise _____**
- 3) To Raise a generation of _____ for Christ!**

One Year Bible Reading

Mar. 15: Numbers 22:21-23:30, Luke 1:57-80, Psalm 58:1-11, Proverbs 11:12-13
Mar. 16: Numbers 24:1-25:18, Luke 2:1-35, Psalm 59:1-17, Proverbs 11:14
Mar. 17: Numbers 26:1-51, Luke 2:36-52, Psalm 60:1-12, Proverbs 11:15
Mar. 18: Numbers 26:52-28:15, Luke 3:1-22, Psalm 61:1-8, Proverbs 11:16-17
Mar. 19: Numbers 28:16-29:40, Luke 3:23-38, Psalm 62:1-12, Proverbs 11:18-19
Mar. 20: Numbers 30:1-31:54, Luke 4:1-30, Psalm 63:1-11, Proverbs 11:20-21
Mar. 21: Numbers 32:1-33:39, Luke 4:31-5:11, Psalm 64:1-10, Proverbs 11:22

March 14 & 15, 2015

Generationz - The Why?

Life Group Lesson



Week of March 15

Commercials tell us to combat the growing national debt by buying gold and investing in precious metals. Then lock your riches away for a safe and secure future. It makes sense, until you think about eternity. Some folks spend their entire lives driven by fear and trusting in riches. “Yet they cannot redeem themselves from death by paying a ransom to God. Redemption does not come so easily, for no one can ever pay enough to live forever and never see the grave” (Psalm 49:7-9).

David is “a man after God’s own heart” (1 Samuel 13:14) and because he has a passion for people to worship the LORD—he wants to build God a Temple. Though he will never see the project completed, King David envisions a beautiful house of worship and generously leads the way in investing for this future Temple. “We give you only what you first gave us... O LORD our God, even this material we have gathered to build a Temple to honor your holy name comes from you! It all belongs to you! (1 Chronicles 29:14b, 16). David loves God’s people, God’s sheep.

During the days of King David, Israel had no national debt. David was a true shepherd and led Israel to become a strong and sovereign nation during his reign. Because he honored God and willingly gave over 112 tons of gold for a future Temple, his leaders also joyfully gave over 188 tons of gold. Wow! David wasn’t scrambling to secure his own future. He gave his gold away and invested in the Lord’s work—a Temple built to honor God. For years to come, God’s flock would have a place to gather and worship the LORD of all the earth!

Read 1 Chronicles 29:1-9

Can you imagine 300 tons of gold! David donated 112 tons while his leaders contributed 188 tons (vv4, 7)—and that is in addition to gold coins, silver, precious gemstones, bronze, iron, and other materials. The Bible says they gave willingly.

1. Refer to the following Scriptures that outline other occasions God calls His people to give. From these passages, discuss what you learn about the attitude we are to have as we are called to contribute to GENERATIONZ.

The Construction of the Tabernacle during the Time of Moses—
Exodus 25:1-2 Exodus 35:4-9, 20-24

Rebuilding of the Temple upon the Return of Exiles to Judah—
Ezra 1:1-7

Jesus’ Ministry as He Preaches the Coming Kingdom and Heals the Sick—
Luke 8:1-3

Relief Fund in Jerusalem (Church in Macedonia Inspires Believers in Corinth)—
2 Corinthians 8:1-9

Paul says we should “remember the words of the Lord Jesus: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive’” (Acts 20:35). Christ modeled this for us – though He was rich, yet for our sake He became poor so that by His poverty we could become rich (2 Corinthians 8:9). We too are called to give willingly, not grudgingly (2 Corinthians 9:5b). In fact, one day our attitude toward giving and volunteering—will be revealed. The motive of our heart will be seen: “But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person’s work has any value” (1 Corinthians 3:13). What is your attitude these days?

2. Are you experiencing “push-back” with GENERATIONZ and Miracle Weekend? How is the Holy Spirit challenging you regarding your attitude toward giving financially and volunteering your time?

If you had to pinpoint the root of your “push-back” to one word, what would it be?

The Lord is patient with us as we grow in spiritual maturity. He doesn’t condemn us for feeling “push-back” when it comes to moving beyond ourselves. Being asked to give sacrificially or volunteer our time can cause us to overly guard *our* money and *our* time. And yet it’s not *ours*. We think that money or time belong to us, but they do not – both belong to God and we are only stewards of what has been given to us.

What God will hold us accountable for is pride, negativity, and disrespecting those in spiritual authority. Continually refusing the Lord’s promptings to get on-board with the vision and harboring prolonged bitterness towards His work (just for the sake of being a “naysayer”) is a dangerous place to be. We must guard against squelching the Holy Spirit, demonizing the church (or pastor), or spreading poisonous remarks about those God has called into leadership—these are acts God will not tolerate.

3. **Read Numbers 16:1-7, 28-35.** Although Moses knew that he was not superior to his fellow Levites, he also understood that God had called him to the task of leading the Israelites—out of bondage and into their own land. God holds a leader accountable, and God holds people accountable for respecting spiritual authority. Instead of criticizing leadership (or wanting to take over) how should we honor those called to the task of leading?

Korah’s rebellion was a poison that spread throughout the entire community of Israel. **Read Numbers 16:41-50.** What did the Israelites do the very next morning according to v41?

As God was about to destroy them, how did Moses and Aaron respond? (vv45b-48).