

1 | God desires for the next generations to know Him.

. . . that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children . . . **PSALM 78:6**

To know God is different from knowing about God. Knowing God doesn't only mean facts and memorized Scriptures. It means having a true, personal, and relational knowledge of who God is. God's desire is for each generation to tell the next about who He is, His *glorious deeds*, His *might*, and *the wonders he has done*. As we have experienced the goodness of God in our lives or learned lessons from Him, this should be among the first things we teach the next generation. How have you experienced God move in your life? What is something you would like to impart to the next generation about God?

2 | God desires for the next generations to hope in Him.

. . . so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God . . . **PSALM 78:7**

The importance of passing on our experience of God to the next generation is the faith and hope we have in Him. Life is packed with moments of joy and sorrow. For those who believe in God, each of these moments, good or bad, is a chance for strengthened faith and renewed hope. When we know what God has done in the past, we will have faith that He can do it again. What are some faith-building moments you have experienced? Why can you say that God is your ultimate hope?

3 | God desires for the next generations to keep walking in His ways.

. . . but keep his commandments . . . **PSALM 78:7**

Why must we keep God's commandments? We should not be obeying God out of fear and a "good works" mentality; we are obeying Him because He truly knows what's best for us. He loves us and wants us to choose life—this is why He wants us to keep walking in His ways. The generations now, realizing that the best way is to walk with God, are called to impart this truth to the future generations, so that they, too, will choose life. Have you ever tried to outsmart God or disobey His instructions? How did it feel? What does Deuteronomy 30:11–14 say about God's heart for us as we obey Him?

APPLICATION

- We tell the stories of God to the next generation to impart faith and hope to them. What is one thing that you want the next generation to believe and take with them?
- When life seems to be going smoothly, it can be easy to forget God. When things are rough, we may lean on our own strength. What is one thing you can start doing to remember and acknowledge Jesus daily?
- Every situation, whether good or bad, is an opportunity to strengthen your faith and renew your hope. What is a habit you can develop that will cause you to see God's perspective in each situation?