

## Nations & Generations Recast 2024

*In this 2 week series we are going to reexamine and recommit to some specific goals we have as our way of making and growing followers of Jesus through our Nations & Generations vision.*

### Week 2: Asking for Generations

1. *“Our capacity to embrace people groups is linked to our capacity to pass the baton.”*  
What does it mean to run our race with a mindset of passing the baton of faith to the next generation? Follow up: **Read Psalm 45:17.** Why is it significant that God's name is honored in every generation? How can we practically apply this in our lives today?
2. **“GENERATIONS” EMPHASIS. *The scriptures challenge every generation to invest in every generation. Read Psalm 78:2-4 & 145:3-4.*** What responsibilities do these passages place on each generation regarding faith? Follow up: Share an example of how someone from a previous generation has impacted your faith journey. Who are you impacting?
3. **Read Mark 10:13-16.** *Jesus gave the next generation three gifts: time, touch, and prayer.* How does Jesus' attitude toward children challenge our approach to ministry and passing on faith? Follow up: Why is it important for every generation to receive knowledge from the past, apply it in the present, and instill it in the future? Share 1 way you are doing that.
4. **“GENERATIONS” STATUS:**

**Goal 1: Launch and lead Celebrate Recovery and a Freedom Ministry for the redemption of broken generations.** Each Thursday evening about **120 adults** meet at our NRH Campus for CR to celebrate and pursue freedom in Christ (**97** people have graduated from CR's 12 step program, helped by **58** trained volunteers. Many people from CR have surrendered to Christ and been baptized. How can breaking cycles of bondage in one generation create a new path for future generations, and what role can you play in helping others experience this freedom through Christ?

**Goal 2: Raise up 25 new foster families and train 100 members to serve foster families..** To date **11 families** are currently fostering and more than **100 people** serve foster children every year. What are some ways we can be a blessing to a foster family?

**Goal 3: Mobilize 2000 members a year to serve in ministry to kids and students in our church and community.** We know that **1246 unique individuals** have served the next generation in some capacity in 2024.. Share some stories of how you've been blessed by



serving the next generation. Follow up: Where might God be calling you to serve next?

**Goal 4: Launch a ministry residency program that trains at least 10 people for future service in the church.** To date we have had 7 people go through or will be going through our residency program. Considering the model of Jesus training his disciples, how do you think hands-on ministry experience in a church setting could complement or enhance traditional theological education?

**Goal 5: Guide 3000 people to connect to God, church, and their purpose through Rooted, a small-group discipleship experience.** *Rooted is designed to help people experience together the practices that form people into the image of our rabbi.* To date **1220 people** have gone through the Rooted experience. If you've gone through Rooted, share your experience with the group. If not, consider doing so in 2025. You can learn more about it here: <https://thehills.org/rooted>

**Goal 6: Strengthen marriages by developing relationship champions to impact and encourage 250 couples.** *Nothing blesses the next generation more than strong marriages in this generation. We have trained 32 couples as relationship champions, and to date they have impacted and encouraged 265 couples.* Pray for all marriages to be enriched. You can learn more about our Marriage Ministry here: <https://thehills.org/marriage>

**Goal 7: Create an intergenerational mentoring experience for men and women on each campus with a goal of maturing 300 kingdom influencers.** For 3 years we have used a strategy called Radical Mentoring for men (8 groups meeting now) and Gathered Groups for women (65 groups meeting now). **To date we have helped mature 317 future leaders in our church through intentional intergenerational mentoring.** Why do you think intergenerational mentoring is important for raising future kingdom influencers, and how might you engage in mentoring or being mentored in your faith journey?

5. Which of these seven goals resonate with you the most? Why? Follow up: If you have personally been involved in one of these goals already, share that experience. What has God been teaching you during this season of ministry?
6. **“GENERATIONS” FOCUS. Read 2 Timothy 3:13-15.** *If faith is to be passed on it must be passed down. Faith cannot be inherited; it must be instilled.* Consider your own "baton" of faith - who passed it to you, and to whom are you passing it? Follow up: **Read Psalm 71:18.** What does this verse suggest about our responsibility to share faith as we age? How can we maintain this mindset throughout our lives?
7. Ask God this question, *What next step should I take to engage with one of these goals more in the next year?* Then take 1-2 minutes in silence listening for a response or an impression. Follow up: What is something God might be asking you to consider doing?

