



## Transformative GRANDparenting

### Foundational Scripture Verses Given by the Holy Spirit for the Message of Transformative GRANDparenting within KidZ at Heart International

#### Deuteronomy 6:5-7

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit...walk...lie down...get up. Deuteronomy 4:9 specifically states that we are to teach *our children and our children's children*.

#### Psalm 78:4

We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done...so the next generation would know them...and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God....

#### Psalm 145:4

One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts. They will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and will meditate on your wonderful works.

#### Joel 1:3

Tell it to your children, and let your children tell it to their children, and their children to the next generation.

### Key Premises Given by the Holy Spirit for Transformative GRANDparenting

**Grandparents is a word commonly understood today to be those who have descendants two or more generations younger than themselves.** When we study the context of the above scriptures, we see that God is speaking not only to parents, but also to grandparents, grandaunts, granduncles and significant others in a child's life. He speaks to an entire generation, not just a segment of the faith community. Everyone in the senior generation ("the big people") is to connect the hearts of the generations behind them ("the little people") with the heart of the Lord. **It is our mission** to cast this biblical vision to all generations, especially to the senior generations.

**Grandparents have been CALLED BY GOD to intentionally influence the hearts of their children and grandchildren for the Lord.** This is true regardless of the age of their descendants. As long as there is breath in these grandparents, they have a godly mission to impact the younger generations to deeply love Jesus all the days of their lives. Their power of influence on their grandchildren is second only to the power of influence of the parents. It has always been the intention and heart of God for parents of grown children as well as grandparents to carefully create spaces for wonder and awe that connect the hearts of their loved ones to Jesus. **It is our mission** to proclaim to this "golden generation" their divine calling.



**This God-given opportunity does not stop once children are grown.** When they leave for college, get a full-time job or join the military, both parents and grandparents still have a responsibility to speak into the next generations. Many grandparents believe that their role is diminished, due to the influence of our culture. Grandparents feel that they have become a "minor player" in the life of this "major person" - their grown child or grandchild. **It is our mission** to identify this cultural lie, thereby tearing down this obstacle between grandparents and their descendants, so that the grandparents can guide the hearts of the next generations into a deep relationship with Jesus.

**“Two out of three parents with grown children sitting in our church pews have at least one child not walking in a relationship with the Lord.”** (Rienow, Never Too Late, p. 44) Many grandparents feel a heart-wrenching burden for their children and grandchildren, yet there is little teaching or even encouragement from our churches on how to reach them. There is ministry in our churches for youth, children, men, women, etc., but there is little ministry directed specifically to the needs of this "golden generation" - especially regarding encouraging faith in the next generations. **It is our mission** to address some of the needs of this generation and give them tools to reach their grown children and grandchildren.

**Cavin Harper says, “Perhaps at no other time in history has a call to spiritual leadership from parents and grandparents been as critical as it is today.”** (Grandparenting with a Purpose, Foreword, p. ix) We are in a world that is hostile to the truths of scripture. There is a sense of urgency to cast the above visions to grandparents to keep the hearts and minds of the next generations safe and in the loving care of our heavenly Father. **It is our mission** to awaken grandparents to the critical need for them to stand strong in their faith, become courageous prayer warriors and to guide the hearts of their loved ones to fall deeply in love with Jesus Christ.

**Each one of us will leave a legacy to the next generations.** The question is what KIND of legacy will each of us leave? If we are not intentional, prayerful and careful in how we live our lives and in what we say to our families, we will leave a compromised legacy. We must remember the older generations have been given the opportunity and responsibility from God to connect the hearts of their loved ones with the heart of God. It is the mission of KidZ at Heart to walk with this “golden generation” at this critical time by encouraging and resourcing them to help their loved ones fall deeply in love with Jesus.