

KEY SCRIPTURE:

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. Deuteronomy 6:4-7

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. John 13:35

Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these. Matthew 19:14

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. 1 Timothy 4:12

**Three Traits of a
Generation Shaping
Church**

1. A Family of Real Faith
2. Radical Love
3. One Church

“The biggest predictor of whether a child will do well is the presence of a stable and committed relationship with a supportive adult.”

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- When you were a child or teenager, who was someone who had a large influence in your life, how did it affect you?

Start thinking. Ask questions to get your group thinking.

- In the sermon, we talked about creating *resilient disciples* of Christ defined as “Jesus followers who are resiliently faithful in the face of cultural coercion and who live a vibrant life in the spirit.” How have you seen God work in your life to help you be that resilient disciple?
- Of all the traits, **A Family of Faith, Radical Love, and One Church**, which do find most difficult to champion? Why?

Start sharing. Choose questions that create openness.

- How can you begin to demonstrate your faith in the home and in the church for the kids and youth in your care?
- Share about a time when you were difficult to love and how someone went out of their way to love you. What did that do for you? Who can you show that radical love to? If you don't know, Ask God to show you someone to show Radical Love to this week, pray for that person and share with your GC or discipleship group how you loved that person well.

Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.

Father, thank You for all the ways in which You strengthen us and prepare us for the future. Help us to shape the generations in our care so that no matter what You set in front of them or what struggles come their way, we can know they will be resilient and trust in Your power to continue forward each day. In Jesus' name, amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and begin living it this week.

- What practical way can you begin to champion the value of being a Generation Shaper? It doesn't have to be join KidsMin or Youth, it could look something like:
 - Praying for these ministries.
 - Joining a wrap team.
 - Signing up to be a foster parent
 - Helping with outreach events that are made for families and children (like Movie at the Meridian)