



TALK IT OVER

Stronger Generations

Stronger - Week 5

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If you would like to watch the weekend message, visit www.saddleback.com/watch.

Open your group in prayer and remember that this is only a guide. Feel free to discuss each of the questions provided or simply dive deeper into just one. Before you close with prayer, take a few minutes to look over the Three Essential Questions at the end of the document.

Scriptures

Acts 9:26–27, 3 John 1:4, Psalm 145:4, Psalm 45:17, Psalm 105:8

Questions

1. Talk about someone (e.g. teacher, mentor, family member) who believed in you, opened doors, or affected your life in a meaningful way.
2. Psalm 45:17 (BSB) says, *“I will commemorate your name through all generations; therefore the nations will praise you.”* Psalm 105:8 (NIV) says, *“He remembers his covenant forever, the promise he made, for a thousand generations.”* Psalm 145:4 (NIV) says, *“One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.”* What do these verses teach us about God’s faithfulness across generations and his heart for future generations? We all have stories about our spiritual journey that helped us grow in our faith. What can you share with the next generation to encourage, strengthen and inspire them? What stronghold do you need God’s help to overcome so you don’t pass it on to the next generation?
3. Acts 9:26–27 (NIV), *“When he came to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he really was a disciple. But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. He told them how Saul on his journey had seen the Lord and that the Lord had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had preached fearlessly in the name of Jesus.”* Barnabas was willing to stand beside someone whom others feared. Have you ever had an opportunity to stand up for someone who was misunderstood or excluded? What was the result? What qualities did

Barnabas demonstrate that we should look for in a mentor and seek to model as we pour into others?

4. 3 John 1:4 (NIV) says, *"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth."* Barnabas did not need to be the center of attention. Instead, he recognized Paul's potential and used his influence to help him become who God had called him to be, advancing the gospel. How can we use our spiritual gifts, resources, and influence to impact future generations? Name a person in your community, church, or workplace that God has placed on your heart to invest in. What can you offer to that person this week?

Three Essential Questions

The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage members to consider how they and what they, or the group, can do as a result of hearing the message.

1. **What did you hear?** *What point in this message was most impactful for you?*
2. **What do you think?** *How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?*
3. **What will you do?** *How will you or your group put into practice what you've learned today?*

Are you interested in the Bible and in helping small groups benefit from the weekend message? Well, you are in luck! Saddleback members like you create these discussion guides each week. If you are interested in joining the team, please email JasonW@saddleback.com.