Legacy and Family

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INTRODUCTION

- We know these people by just a few lines, a summary.
- What are people going to say about me, or not just me, but what are they going to say about my family?
- Will you continue that on with your own children? Or will you do the hard work to break the chain of chaos?

1 Legacy Is Built by Choices

Joshua 24; Genesis 22

- Legacy is built by choices, sometimes even seemingly small choices, or a collection of choices along the way that make up who I am or make up what my family becomes.
- Joshua was who Joshua was before he ever said what he said in Joshua 24.
- Legacy often comes from sacrifice, from doing things that are hard, from making choices that are difficult.
- It's not my happiness that I really need to go after. It's following the will of God and doing things in his ways and trusting him.
- Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God.
- Only when we will give all that up and lay it all on the altar will we actually understand the depths of God's love and wisdom.

2 Choices Come With Consequences

- We have to understand that choices come with consequences.
- It's not just the story that's going to be told a hundred years from now. It's how I'm actually affecting my children, or how I'm actually affecting my wife.
- And the way we influence people in our lives is undeniable.
- Just murder and death and destruction and assault, all coming from the family of David, this man who is a man after God's heart.
- But the positive consequences of her loyalty span generations.
- The only thing we can do now is to be working forward and thinking about the choices I can make from right now going forward.

3 God's Grace Can Redeem Any Legacy

Genesis 32

- God can redeem my legacy. He can redeem your legacy. God's grace can redeem any legacy.

- Some of the worst people in the Bible made the most positive impact. Why? Because their story didn't end with their mistake, it finished with their comeback.
- But you can begin to make choices going forward that positively influence everyone around you.
- God continued to pursue him. And God was with him, and God is with you.
- And so Rahab becomes the great grandmother of King David, through which comes the Messiah, who brings salvation to everyone.
- So your story's not over. You're here this morning. Your story is still being written.

THE CHALLENGE

What is your legacy? What are people going to say about you in the years to come? Fifty years from now, 70 years from now, when your children and their families gather, what will the story be?

MY NOTES