

**SERIES TITLE:** Leave a Legacy

**PART 1:** GENERATIONS

**TEXT:** GENESIS 5

**INTRODUCTION.** Genesis 1-4 tell of Creation, Fall, and the dreadful consequences of sin in the human family. Genesis 12-50 give the account of God's chosen family. Chapters 5-11 connect those two themes. This section is framed by two genealogies of 10 generations each: Adam to Noah (5:1-32); Noah to Terah (11:10-26). The first genealogy and the subsequent account of Noah are the focus of this series.

**DISCUSSION.** What kind of legacy did you receive from your parent(s)? Was the impact/influence/result passed along intentionally and purposefully or accidentally and unintentionally?

**EXAMINATION.**

Vv.1-2 The initial account of the creation of man is repeated. What does it mean to be created in the likeness of God?

Vv.3-5 Seth is described as being in Adam's likeness. The image of the Maker is still being passed on, despite the Fall. Seth is the only son of Adam's mentioned. Why are Cain and Abel not included?

Vv.6-20 Compared to our day, the lifespans recorded are incredible. In addition to the plan of God, what factors could have contributed to this?

"And he died" is a phrase that begins with Adam (v.5), and is true for each succeeding name in these verses. What is the significance of this repeated phrase?

Vv.21-24 Enoch breaks the formula of death. Enoch "walked with God." Compare that with what walking with God was like for Adam and Eve (3:8).

[Notice that Enoch is seventh in the line of Adam through Seth. Compare the seventh in Adam's line through Cain, Lamech (4:19-24). He married two women and killed a man. If the number seven signifies completion, then Enoch and Lamech show the full difference between Seth and Cain, the godly and ungodly lines.]

Vv.25-27 Methuselah is the longest-living human in the biblical record. However, there is no other fact mentioned about his life. Neither is he commended the way Enoch is in Hebrews 11:5. What does this suggest about the significance of longevity?

Vv.28-32 Is this Lamech the one mentioned previously (4:19-24)? Why or why not? Though discouraged about life, Lamech shows his hope for the future in the naming of his son. Noah means rest.

Do you think Noah brought “rest” in the way Lamech hoped? Why or why not?

#### **APPLICATION.**

- This genealogy has something to tell us about the true impact of our lives. If our focus was more about pleasing God with the time we have than it was on extending our time on earth, what are some things that might change?
- What do you want your legacy to be? Genesis 5 indicates that how long you live or how fertile you are may not be key factors. The legacy you leave does not have to be earth shaking, world changing, or century-breaking. The true impact of our lives is not measured by longevity or fertility, but in the pleasure we give God.
- What are some ways you can give pleasure to God?
- What is one thing you could do this week to better walk with God and give him pleasure?
- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What one thing could you do to apply this Scripture?