



PAUL NEFF

ESTATE PLANNING DEVOTION

Welcome to this companion devotion for our blog series on Estate Planning. These Bible passages and thought-provoking questions are designed to help you engage with the Scriptures, as well as observe, understand, and apply God's Word to your life. I pray this devotion will inspire and motivate you to consider the benefits of applying the truth of each passage and growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior.

LEAN IN

- Can you think of someone who left behind a solid legacy when they passed? What did they do that you admire most?

LOOK DOWN

- What does the scripture below teach us about leaving an inheritance?

Psalms 17:14

By the power of your hand, O LORD, destroy those who look to this world for their reward.

But satisfy the hunger of your treasured ones. May their children have plenty, leaving an inheritance for their descendants.

We're all too familiar with the story of children inheriting a great fortune from their parents and within a few years that wealth has dwindled away. The Bible tells us a similar story in the book of Luke **15:11-13**. It reads:

To illustrate the point further, Jesus told them this story: "A man had two sons. The younger son told his father, 'I want my share of your estate now before you die.' So his father agreed to divide his wealth between his sons. A few days later this younger son packed all his belongings and moved to a distant land, and there he wasted all his money in wild living.

LOOK OUT

- How does this scripture compare to what we see in the world today? Are there any similarities or differences seen?

When we think of leaving an inheritance to our children, we automatically think of money. However, there are many assets we can leave to our children including family heirlooms, business or property. However, the inheritance of our faith far surpasses other earthly assets.

Consider the following verses:

Proverbs 13:22

Good people leave an inheritance to their grandchildren, but the sinner's wealth passes to the godly.

1 Timothy 5:8

But those who won't care for their relatives, especially those in their own household, have denied the true faith. Such people are worse than unbelievers.

Psalm 78: 4 - 7

We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord, about his power and his mighty wonders.

For he issued his laws to Jacob; he gave his instructions to Israel.

He commanded our ancestors to teach them to their children, so the next generation might know them— even the children not yet born— and they in turn will teach their own children.

*So each generation should set its hope anew on God, not forgetting his glorious miracles
and obeying his commands.*

LOOK IN

- What kind of legacy do you want to leave behind? Take a few moments to think about the kind of impact you desire to have on future generations.

LIVE IT OUT

- What steps can you take today to create an estate plan that honors God, honors your loved ones and leaves the legacy you desire?

May God guide you as you walk the process of Estate Planning. May you fully trust His provision and seek His guidance.