

Conversation Guide

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RIPPLE EFFECT
FOR THE NEXT
GENERATION

SCOTT LANIGAN

SCRIPTURE

This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you. For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.

2 Timothy 1:6-7

MAIN IDEA

Most of us can remember a person who saw something in us before we saw it ourselves. Someone who believed in us, encouraged us, and helped us become who we are today. That's part of Paul + Timothy's story. Paul didn't simply teach Timothy theology, he invested in him. Through that relationship, we catch a glimpse of God's heart for people and His desire to pass faith from one generation to the next. As followers of Jesus, we're all living in the space between two questions: Who invested in me? Who am I investing in now?

TALK ABOUT IT

Who are some people that helped shape your faith or your life and what did they do that made such an impact on you?

Paul says Timothy had "proved himself" through faithful service (Philippians 2:22). Why do you think faithfulness is often formed in ordinary, unseen moments rather than big public moments? *Where are you currently being invited to practice faithfulness?*

Paul reminds Timothy of the faith that was passed down through his grandmother Lois and mother Eunice (2 Timothy 1:5). What are some ways faith has been passed on to you? *What kind of faith do you hope future generations would see in your life?*

The biblical idea of anamnesis is remembering in a way that changes how you live today. Can you think of a time when remembering God's faithfulness gave you courage, hope, or perspective for a current challenge? *What might God be inviting you to remember right now?*

PUT IT INTO ACTION

Remember Your "Paul"

Reach out to someone who invested in you. Send a text. Make a phone call. Write a note. Share a post. Tell them specifically how they impacted your life.

Identify Your "Timothy"

Ask God to put one person on your heart this week. It may be a child, student, young adult, coworker, neighbour, friend, or family member. Take one intentional step toward encouraging them.

Stir Up the Fire

Spend a few minutes reflecting on where you've seen God's faithfulness in your life. Journal it. Pray through it. Share it with someone. *Don't just remember the facts, remember the story.*

Let Your Faith Be Visible.

Choose one practical way to live out your faith this week.

REMEMBER

Psalm 78:2-4, 6-7 NLT

I will teach you hidden lessons from our past, stories we have heard and known, stories **our ancestors** handed down to us. 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... 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.

1 Timothy 4:12 NIV

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

A vision of what **God has done** paints a picture of what **God can do**.

If you missed it last week, follow the link to download our: [For the Okanagan: Practical Guide to Loving your Neighbour](#)