

THE LINKS OF LIFE

1. Text: II Timothy 2:1-5
2. Notice verse 2. Paul explains the very important principle of life: Life is made up of chains or links to others. Those chains can be established and maintained or they can be broken. These links can be either positive or negative. Some should be broken; some should not.
3. They have deep, profound significance for us and our relationships to God and those around us.

I. The Problems

1. Many moral issues of our time: welfare generations, child abuse, alcoholism, etc. Co-dependency
2. Gossip
3. Kings of Israel. Nineteen in the chain.
4. Kings of Judah. Broken and mixed.
5. II Chronicles 21:5-11 and the reign of Jehoram
6. Apostolic succession. Linus in II Timothy 4:21
7. Matthew 15:14 The blind following the blind.
8. The father's bad day
9. The elder brother in Luke 15:25-32

II. The Positives

1. Back to the text: II Timothy 2:2 and four generations
2. I Timothy 4:2-4 and "the time will come."
3. Psalm 71:18 "Now when I am old, O God, do not forsake me until I declare your strength to this generation."
4. Acts 20:28-31. For elders, feed the church and watch.
5. Parenting and Deuteronomy 6:7 "You shall teach them to your children."
6. Who breaks the chain?
7. Evangelism links: CPA. Philip (Acts 8:30-31) and Cornelius (Acts 10:24)
8. Stewardship: I Corinthians 4:2 "It is required in stewards that one be found faithful."
9. Great and good leaders: "Pass It On"

Conclusion: Responsibility and decision making and "broken chains."

**A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings
Northwest Church of Christ - Sunday Morning, May 7, 2006**

