

Daily Legacy Living

"Remember that when you leave this earth,
you can take nothing that you have received...
but only what you have given."

—Francis of Assisi



It all depends on you!

If you do not start planning the person you wish to be at an early age, it's not likely to happen. Ultimately this positive change in lifestyle not just results in the person being remembered after death but it makes the person's life more rewarding and successful.

Legacy is anything handed down from one generation to the next. It can be heredity, inheritance, or heritage.

A legacy is the story of some-one's life, the things they did, places they went, goals they accomplished, their failures, and more. Legacy is something that a person leaves behind to be remembered by. Legacies are pathways that guide people in decisions with what to do or what not to do. By wanting to leave a mark and create a legacy example for people to follow.

A legacy also leaves behind the story of a person, so that they are not forgotten. Legacies are important pathways for the future to follow or to be guided by in order to make better

decisions in life. Leaving behind a legacy gives us comfort in knowing that once we are gone, we will not be erased from the memories of others.

Leaving behind a legacy is important no matter who you are. Heroes, villains, and everyday people leave behind a legacy that creates meaning in our lives. A grandmother's legacy may be important to her family. A family's heritage is a legacy that a person would be interested in.

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Legacy planning is anything handed down from one generation to the next. It can be heredity (green eyes), inheritance (dollars and cents), or heritage (spiritual). Spiritual legacy leavers are the most important, from my perspective:

Make time for family

Know actions teach louder than words.

It is never too soon to begin teaching salvation and stewardship.

The local church is an ally.

Be happy and laugh a lot.

Vivian VanLier recommends the following protirement exercises and question:

Start a protirement planning journal. Let this be where you place all your ideas as

they come to you about what you'd like to do "someday." Cut out pictures that represents your desired future and pastes them into the journal: pictures of places you'd like to travel to, of how you'd like your home and surroundings to look, of the work (whether paid or volunteer) you are doing. Are these pictures similar to your life today, or different? Allow yourself to dream. Don't edit!

Set aside an hour or two. Meditate, listen to music, do what works for you to get in a relaxed state. Now write in your journal about your life 10, 20, 30 years from now. Include details describing a typical day, week, and month. Where are you living? Who are your friends? What do you do for your health? What are your hobbies? What is your work, if you are working? Be imaginative and let your mind wander. Don't edit!

Pretend you've won the lottery and you never have to worry about money again. What would you do with your time? What interests would you pursue that you just haven't had time for? Don't edit!

Make a list of things you've ever enjoyed doing. Look back over your life and remember what it felt like just have a good time. Do you do those things now? Have you forgotten what your hobbies and interests are because you've just been too busy working and living life? Keep writing and add to the list as you remember joys from the past. What have you always wanted to do that you never had time for? Add those to the list. Don't edit!

How do you want to be remembered?
Pretend you are a fly on the wall at your own funeral. What are people saying about you? Have you lived a life in synch with how you want to be remembered? What can you do in the future to become the person they are talking about?

Remembering Your Story, by Richard L. Morgan, is an excellent resource to help you write your story. Kindle Direct Publishing (e-copy) and Create Space (paper copy) are inexpensive ways to publish. I've used both sources to publish.

Legacy communications can take many forms: letters, stories, recordings, videos, paper weights, meaningful property, Bibles, storybooks, journals or memoirs.

No matter the legacy communication form should not be put off; just as your will. Both documents are extremely important to the well-being of your loved ones.

Daily Legacy Living focus is on religious health, financial health, mental health, physical health and social leadership principles.

Essential decisions for a successful life include:

- Acceptance of Jesus Christ as your Savior

- Higher education

- Pre-marital Church sponsored marriage course

- Selection of an opposite-sex spouse and taking three years to get to know one another before marriage

Spousal pre-agreement on church attendance, a family budget, division of labor, number of children, discipline, chores, allowance or not, school or work activities priority, and communication devices, car, college funding: child, parents, or shared, sizable purchases, particularly on houses and automobiles, future estate planning; expenditure for church contribution, savings, investments; and protirement

There are two ways of knowing about the subject. One is by knowledge gained through words, such as this book. This kind of knowledge is variously called before experience (a priori) knowledge or derivative (derived from words) knowledge or intellectual knowledge. The other kind of knowledge is gained through experience. This kind of knowledge is variously called after-experience (a posteriori) knowledge or firsthand knowledge or experiential knowledge.

The information presented is a combination of the Bible; personal experience and research; and others counsel and experience. The wisdom presented has not always been personally practiced. However, the more diligently practiced, the better the results. The counsel and experience of others includes Milton Crum, Pastor Bruce Goettsche, Cavin Harper, Richard L. Morgan, Dr. Tim Smith, and Jane Marie Thibault.

Under "Legacy Communication samples" both legacy letters and stories examples are included from Longevity Response-Ability (2013) and Basic Ministry for the Second Half of Life (2012).



Take Away Points

Religious Health

Complete your personal salvation

The ultimate answer to every question is Jesus Christ

The Lord has forgiven our sins, is working in us to make us like Him and has given us eternal life with Him

Financial Health

A budget requires both spouses approval

A home and auto are among the biggest budget decisions that you make in life.
Take your time, think, and pray about them

Never spend more than you earn

Always pay taxes and give charitable gifts first, then live on what is left

Prepare and review regularly:

Will

Revocable trust (if needed)

Power of attorney for Health Care

Power of attorney for Property

Memorandum of Tangible Property

Funeral Instructions

Animal Care Instructions

Legacy Letters

Testimonial Letter

Executor Instruction Letter

Estate Document Locator

Have a family discussion meeting

Have a sentimental property meeting

The funeral should be a happy day. All the aches, pains, and concerns of this life are taken away. The old worn-out body is laid to rest. God and all the heavenly hosts are celebrating the arrival of your spirit

Mental Health

Maintain an attitude of gratitude

Pray constantly

Read and know the Bible

Worship each Sunday

Practice Stewardship

Serve (Minister)

Witness (Evangelize)

Fellowship (Identify with the body)

Don't divorce, cohabit, watch
pornography or commit to any other
addictive bad habit

Your parents prefer to be independent and
live in their own home

Physical Health

Drink 8 glass of water a day

Do not smoke

Drink alcohol in moderation

Eat an apple daily

“Listen to your parents that they are not
the same physically; old age takes their
GO, GO, GO. Aging is not more of the
same, but rather an evolution of changes
that neither we nor they fully comprehend,”
Milton Crum.

Social Leadership

Bad politicians are elected by good people
who don't vote

Only you can make the different

Now is the time

