

# **The Legacy Focus Program**

## **Who is this program for ?**

*Individuals, couples, parents, and grandparents. It's also an excellent program for adolescents between 10 and 14 to work on with their parents and grandparents.*

## **What is the goal of the program ?**

*The goal for someone completing The Legacy Focus Program is fourfold:*

- 1. They walk away, knowing what they believe.*
- 2. They understand why they believe it.*
- 3. They can confidently articulate those beliefs in a clear, concise, and compelling manner.*
- 4. They will have created a permanent record to pass on those beliefs to their children, grandchildren, and generations to come.*

## **What benefits does the church receive ?**

*The benefits for the church are many:*

- 1. The church has another community building activity to offer its members and to the greater community outside its doors.*
- 2. The participants share their core beliefs regarding morals and ethics and how they came to those beliefs with their fellow participants. They then discuss whether the virtues they aspire to are compatible with their Christian faith.*
- 3. Families are brought closer together by reviewing and recording their family legacy.*

- 4. The groups establish consensus concerning how one's virtue is inseparable from their Christian faith.**
- 5. Participants learn scriptures that speak to the 55 issues they deal with in their daily lives.**
- 6. The church has a new way to draw the unchurched community into the church for a mid-week family activity.**
- 7. The program is also excellent for a Legacy Gifting promotion.**

**Why is this particular program so crucial for the future of the local Christian Church in America today?**

**The reason has to do with today's demographics. Millennials and Gen-Z are 49.7% of the U.S. population. They are the future of the Church and this nation, and they are giving up on God.**

***In an article titled: Millennials Are Giving Up On God, this Is What They're Reaching for Instead . . .***

***"It seems that people's general attitude toward God is shifting . . . Last week, the Pew Research Center offered that a majority of Americans think a belief in God isn't necessary to be, you know, a good person with fine morals."***

- Inc.com Oct. 2017

**They are searching for answers to the ultimate questions of life. But unfortunately, more and more are looking for them in the cesspool of contemporary culture. It's louder, and it's flashier, it offers endless paths to happiness all at their fingertips; social media, 24/7 sports, online gambling, 180 plus channels of mind-numbing programming, pornography or a complete digital fantasy life. Then there are the old favorites of drugs and alcohol. Or how about "friends with benefits," sex with NO commitments or responsibility. And when it comes to a "*celestial connection*," they are not even looking at Christianity.**

***"Many millennials have found a substitute for a traditional deity. They're turning to the likes of astrology and witchcraft in order to find a celestial connection."***

- Marketwatch

The occult seems so much more exciting and offers more worldly gain and power in a society fixated on those things. Yes, the world provides endless ways to escape that feeling that “something” . . . is missing.

How does your church compete on that playing field? How does it become relevant again to its community of attendees and the greater community outside its doors? What does it have to offer that the temporal world can't provide??? . . .

LOVE, ETERNAL LOVE, that's what.

The Legacy Focus Program is a way to introduce them to that love. To help everyone who goes through it to refocus on the thing that touches their heart. It is the vehicle to connect them to the people in their life that they love and make that connection on an even deeper level. Yes, love is what universally matters to people. If you want to talk to people about God's love for them, you start by talking about who they love and who loves them.

“But now faith, hope, love, abide *these* three;  
but *the greatest of these is love.*”

- 1 Corinthians 13:13 *NASB*

Understand this foundational principle of sales that I taught for over 28 years; A person will do things for someone they love, that they would never do for themselves. Let me say that again with a little more emphasis. A person will go anywhere, sacrifice time, energy, and money. They will do whatever is necessary for someone they love and cherish that they would NEVER even think of doing for themselves . . .

So now you are saying, “Okay, great. I get it, but how do we become the vehicle to make that connection?” Glad you asked. Let me start by telling you a little about myself, my background, and how the Lord has laid this mission on my heart for the next season of my life.

I was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1948 at the beginning of the Baby Boomer era, so my early life experience was during the 1950s. It was the so-called golden age of peace, power, and prosperity within America. It was also the age of virtually universal Christian influence in every aspect of daily life. However, I have watched that change dramatically during the last 50 years.

**As for my religious experience, well, I went from serving as an Acolyte in a Methodist church at the age of 12, to becoming a 27-year-old hedonistic deist. Then at the age of 31, I finally became a follower of the Lord Jesus Christ, and have remained so for the last 40 years. During this time, I have served in volunteer, and lay ministry including 14 years at Willow Creek Church in South Barrington, Illinois, and 26 years at Mountain Valley Church, another sizeable evangelical church, in Scottsdale Arizona. For nearly 6 of those years, I served as a member of the Elder Board.**

**Regarding my professional career, I have owned several businesses, and In 1990 I began working in the field of financial services and estate planning. During my 28 plus years in the financial services profession, I have been a managing partner, vice president, and a sales manager. I have also been a sales trainer and program designer for several Fortune 100 financial services companies. I have authored numerous white papers, training manuals, and consumer buying guides. My previous writing has, directly and indirectly, helped tens of thousands of people improve their career and financial situations.**

**Today I am using my writing and teaching talents to help people focus on the Ultimate Issues of life. I have divided these into ten major areas with fifty-five subtopics. Knowing precisely why one believes something and being able to explain it in a clear, concise, and compelling manner is of the utmost importance. It is essential for mental stability and as a compass for navigating life, especially during times of hardship or crisis. I had observed this to be true in the lives of numerous people throughout my life. Then one day while preparing an article for a blog on cultural trends affecting the Church, the Lord brought to my mind the message of 1 Peter 3:15; *“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you . . .”* I immediately knew that was the key to helping Church leaders ignite the fire of unshakable faith among their congregations and communities.**

**Just ask yourself what percentage of your congregation could confidently articulate a clear, and concise answer to the question; *what is the reason for the hope that is in you?* This ability to explain the reason for their hope is missing among as much as half of the churchgoers. It is also, the reason why many people are falling away from the faith or only partially committed. They are being bombarded daily by news media, television programming, marketing, and music**

that glorifies and promotes the secularist answers to the issues and problems they face. If a person cannot express the reasons for their faith in Jesus with evidence and certainty; then, one hour every Sunday will NOT sustain them in the cesspool of contemporary culture. This revelation is what inspired me to design *The Legacy Focus Program*.

In this day of Relativism, this program is a thought-provoking process through which an individual, a family, or a whole church community can become laser-focused on what they believe. Moreover, they can know precisely why they believe it.

During the program, the participants share their values, what they believe, and how they came to that belief regarding fifty-five of the critical issues of life. They wrestle with things like; the purpose of life, death, hardship, persistence, hope & fear, virtue, patience, success & failure, work & Welfare, war, prejudice, love & marriage, justice, sorrow, pain, and of course, faith. They wrestle with them as individuals and in groups. They are provided with examples, guidance, and the inspiration needed to formulate and document their belief regarding each issue in their very own priceless and irreplaceable legacy journal. A journal that will prove more precious and valuable to them, their children, and grandchildren than any material possession ever could. This process helps them establish a foundation of core beliefs that holds them fast in the shifting winds and tides of a nation that has lost its anchor. It also equips them to share those beliefs with others in a clear, concise, and compelling manner.

This program is also the perfect way to connect Junior High and High School students with their parents and grandparents at a heart to heart level.

If you are a youth pastor, you have a critical role in the future of your church and society as a whole.

My vision is that you would use the program with students ten years old through Junior High. You would have the students interview their parents and grandparents with the questions from each of the ten major subdivisions of the ultimate issues. You want them to focus on a transfer of wisdom, knowledge, and family history. Have them find out what their parents and grandparents believe and why. You could have them use the recording feature on their cell phones to collect the

answers and then transcribe them into their Legacy Journal workbooks. Later during their weekly class, you would lead them in a discussion of the different responses they each received and share their stories of family history.

The most frequent comments I hear from people about my book and program are; “it’s life-changing,” “It brought tears to my eyes,” “It brought our whole family much closer,” “It made me think at a deeper level,” and “Now I know exactly what I believe and why I believe it.”

Here we have two more reasons why this program will be a hit with your congregation and your surrounding community. Those reasons are just a couple of statistics that give you a clear understanding of what people feel is of the utmost importance. Here’s a clue, it’s NOT money.

1. If you Google “Family Stories” you get **9,390,000,000** results. Yes, you read that right . . . that’s nearly **9.4 BILLION**.
2. In an Allianz Insurance Co. survey of Boomers who are 55 - 75 years old as of 2019, and Elders, at least 72+ years old who were asked to prioritize their Legacy assets. They clearly indicated that they want to transfer their Values over valuables.

<b>Family Stories</b>	<b>Boomers 86%</b>	<b>Elders 74%</b>
Personal Possessions	Boomers 64%	Elders 58%
Financial Inheritance	Boomers 9%	Elders 14%

**NOTE: Very few indicated that they had taken any action to do so.**

**Wouldn’t it be nice to help them do just that?**

Every day we have a chance to invest in something greater than ourselves, something that will impact our world for the advancement of the kingdom of God. Now you need to make a decision, and there are two paths before you. The first path is to continue working on pumping up the music program, adding more Sunday School activities, or you can try capitulating to the culture to keep people coming back and to attract new people through your door. However, you already know that it is not working anywhere in the country. We all know the

adage about doing the same things and expecting different results. So that leaves the second path, the path less traveled.

Here is your second path option:

## **The Legacy Focus Program Package**

The program can be configured as a 4 or 8-Week course and is centered around the Legacy Journal Workbook.

**Program Includes:**

1. Facilitator's Course Guide
2. Worksheets
3. Writing guides.
4. A Facebook community to share stories.
5. Plus a members-only website with access to support & resources.
6. Facilitator Training Sessions for up to 6 facilitators. (These can be staff or volunteers from your congregation.)
7. A 60% Discount off the retail cost of the workbooks for each participant. (\$4.98 per book, vs. \$12.49) + Shipping.

## **Cost of the program**

The program is **FREE**; you only pay for the workbooks you need depending on the class size. The cost for the workbooks is \$4.98 per book (which is a 60% discount off the retail price of \$12.49).

**Note:** This program can also be used to raise money for a Legacy Gifting, or building fund drive, all while improving the faith and commitment of your members. Moreover, you can use it as an evangelizing outreach to your entire surrounding community.

Since you are hosting and facilitating the program, you can charge each participant what you paid for the books with shipping costs, or you can charge whatever you feel is appropriate. We would suggest \$15.00 as a fair fee for the program, because that is what it would cost the participant to buy the book at retail, with tax and shipping. Therefore, it's like they are receiving the program with it for free.

You pick the days and times for the classes. If you use volunteers for the facilitators, your cost for putting on the program is minimal.

**I hope you found the information about this program and the reason for its creation to be thought-provoking, and hopefully, useful. What you can gain from offering this program could be nothing less than transformational for your church and surrounding community.**

**So, if you are ready to try a new approach and you would like to discuss the program in more detail, please choose one of the following ways to contact me.**

**Email:** Go to “Contact Me” at the bottom of the site’s PASTORS page.

**Call or Text me:** 602.826.5002

**May your life’s legacy be one of lives changed for eternity.**

**Sincerely,**

**Rob Stewart**