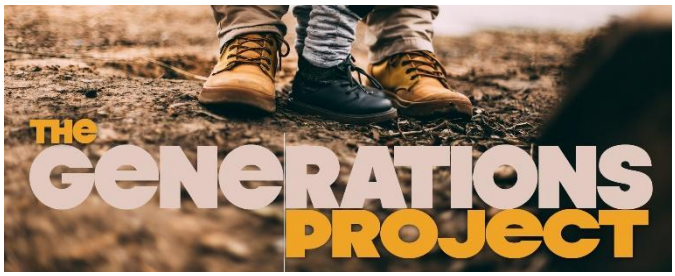

Finish Strong

Isaiah 46:4 Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.

II Corinthians 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.

Job 12:12 Is not **wisdom** found among the aged? Does not long life bring understanding?

Proverbs 20:29 The glory of young men is their strength, gray hair the splendor of the old.

Psalm 92:12-14 But the godly will flourish like palm trees and grow strong like the cedars of Lebanon. For they are transplanted to the LORD's own house. They flourish in the courts of our God. Even in old age **they will still produce fruit**; they will remain vital and green. They will declare, "The LORD is just! He is my rock! There is no evil in him!"

Proverbs 16:31 Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is obtained by following a righteous path.

Psalm 71:18 Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I **declare your power to the next generation**, your mighty acts to all who are to come.

1. The term, "_____ _____" is often used in scripture to describe someone right before God uses them to do *something great.*

Go Deeper: Do you have a sense of "something great" that God is about to do in or through you?

2. Only _____ biblical leaders fully cooperated with God over the long haul. Only _____ finished strong.

Go Deeper: Share at least two things that we can learn from those in scripture who did not finish strong.

3. The three causes of the fall of Joash:

a. He _____ the high places.

b. He _____ to_____ counselors.

c. He _____ the _____ of God.

6 Warnings About Not Finishing Strong

1. **Leaders who do not finish well lose their learning posture. They stop listening and growing.**
2. **The attractiveness of their character wanes.**
3. **They stop living by their convictions.**
4. **They fail to leave behind ultimate contributions.**
5. **They stop walking in an awareness of their influence and destiny.**
6. **Leaders who finish poorly lose their once vibrant relationship with God.**

Go Deeper: Discuss with your group. Do any of these stand out to you?

CROSSROADS

We're SO GLAD you came to church!

I wonder how God is going to use YOU this week?