

THE CROWN OF THE AGED

I. [Isaiah 46:4-9](#) [Psalm 103:13-19](#)

A. [Isaiah 46:4-9](#) (NIV) is God's word for people getting old and those who already are: **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.* **5** *With whom will you compare Me or count Me equal? To whom will you liken Me that we may be compared?* **6** *Some pour out gold from their bags and weigh out silver on the scales; they hire a goldsmith to make it into a god, and they bow down and worship it.* **7** *They lift it to their shoulders and carry it; they set it up in its place, and there it stands. From that spot it cannot move. Even though someone cries out to it, it cannot answer; it cannot save them from their troubles.* **8** *Remember this, keep it in mind, take it to heart, you rebels.* **9** *Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me.*

B. [Psalm 103:13-19](#) (NLT) affirms: **13** *The LORD is like a Father to His children, tender and compassionate to those who fear Him.* **14** *For He knows how weak we are; He remembers we are only dust.* **15** *Our days on earth are like grass; like wildflowers, we bloom and die.* **16** *The wind blows, and we are gone--as though we had never been here.* **17** *But the love of the LORD remains forever with those who fear Him. His salvation extends to the children's children* **18** *of those who are faithful to His covenant, of those who obey His commandments!* **19** *The LORD has made the heavens His throne; from there He rules over everything.*

C. Today is Grandparents Day. Honk your horn if you're a grandparent! Honk if you're a great-grandparent or great-great-grandparent! Honk if you love your grandpa & grandma, even if they're now with Jesus! Someone said, "A grandparent is someone with silver in their hair and gold in their heart." [Proverbs 17:6](#) says: **6 *Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their fathers.***

D. For decades I've been collecting pennies, hoping to someday pass them along to my Grandkids. I'm sure they'll be totally geeked to get them! [Proverbs 13:22a](#) was my original motivation: "A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children." But I've actually set my sights on passing along something a whole lot better than pennies. So would that be wealth & riches of the material kind or something of more eternal value? Jesus told us not to *lay up treasures here on earth where moth, rust, and thieves* can mess with it. I imagine the same notion applies to the kind of treasures we pass along to our grandkids. What might that be? What could we give them here that will endure past the grave?

E. Based on our opening passage, I don't want to give my children or grandchildren or great-grandchildren false gods. Who wants their offspring to become idolators?! I want them to have *no other gods before Yahweh!* I want them to live this life trusting in the God who made them and the God who saved them! I want them to live this life in preparation for the next! I want them to be the *apples of God's eyes* not the eye-candy of this world! I want God's Word written on the tablets of their hearts! I want them to know Jesus and to make Him known!

F. Billy Graham wisely said: "The greatest legacy one can pass on to one's grandchildren is not money or other material things accumulated in one's life, but rather a legacy of character and faith." (May God help us all to do just that!)

G. We are all called to sow good seeds into the hearts of our children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and so on. Of course we hope to sow good seed into well prepared soil. But ultimately we must trust God to make those seeds come alive. Like it says in 1 Corinthians 3:7 (ESV): 7 *So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth.* So more and more I find myself praying to God, pleading at times, for the good seeds we've sown into young lives to come alive, to germinate, shoot forth, take root, blossom & bloom, and bear fruit! Oh how I pray He will--not just in our children by blood, but also our spiritual children. Will you join me in that prayer?!

H. When it comes to patience in these regards, we may fall short. I sure do. We may harbor disappointment in our hearts regarding the results we'd hoped for. We may wonder where we went wrong. No one knows better than God our Father what such disappointments feel like. No one has sowed more faithfully than God. No one's had children rebel as starkly and gravely as His. No one's had children be more stubborn, difficult, and burdensome. So our ever-faithful God understands!

I. Even before time began, God knew what it would take to have obedient children who loved Him from the heart. It would take the sacrifice of His only Son--Jesus. But God is the Regenerator of dead-men-walking, and that includes our children, our grandchildren, our offspring, our progenies. We sow. We water. We pray. And we pray hard! And we wait on God. My Bible says my God can be trusted. God loves our offspring better than us. Remember, His steadfast love and faithfulness are not only from of old, not only do they never cease, but they are from everlasting to everlasting. Let's bank on that!

J. As for you aging ones: grandparents, great-grandparents, great-great-grandparents, and all you who want to be grandparents some day, remember the words of God: *"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. With whom will you compare Me or count Me equal? To whom will you liken Me that we may be compared?" "The love of the LORD (Yahweh, I Am) remains forever with those who fear Him. His salvation extends to the children's children of those who are faithful to His covenant, of those who obey His commandments!"* You are in good hands; be sure to stay right there!

*** Close with a Song, "You Are My Strength Oh God."**

[Scriptures, Videos, & Bonus Stuff](#)

[Isaiah 46:4-9 \(NIV\)](#)

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. **5** With whom will you compare Me or count Me equal? To whom will you liken Me that we may be compared? **6** Some pour out gold from their bags and weigh out silver on the scales;

they hire a goldsmith to make it into a god, and they bow down and worship it. **7** They lift it to their shoulders and carry it; they set it up in its place, and there it stands. From that spot it cannot move. Even though someone cries out to it, it cannot answer; it cannot save them from their troubles. **8** Remember this, keep it in mind, take it to heart, you rebels. **9** Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me.

Psalm 103:13-19 (NLT)

13 The LORD is like a Father to His children, tender and compassionate to those who fear Him. **14** For He knows how weak we are; He remembers we are only dust. **15** Our days on earth are like grass; like wildflowers, we bloom and die. **16** The wind blows, and we are gone--as though we had never been here. **17** But the love of the LORD remains forever with those who fear Him. His salvation extends to the children's children **18** of those who are faithful to His covenant, of those who obey His commandments! **19** The LORD has made the heavens His throne; from there He rules over everything.

Proverbs 17:6 (ESV)

6 Grandchildren are the crown of the aged, and the glory of children is their fathers.

Proverbs 13:22 (ESV)

22 A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but the sinner's wealth is laid up for the righteous.

Quote by Unknown Author

"A grandparent has silver in their hair and gold in their heart."

Quote by Billy Graham

"The greatest legacy one can pass on to one's grandchildren is not money or other material things accumulated in one's life, but rather a legacy of character and faith."

Video Clips & Important Articles

5 Ways to Be a Godly Grandparent - Avery Foley (Answers in Genesis)

<https://answersingenesis.org/grandparents/five-ways-be-godly-grandparent/>

Parent Love and Grandparent Love - Tim Challies

<https://www.challies.com/articles/parent-love-and-grandparent-love/>

Spoil the Grandkids? A Better Way Forward - John Piper - Desiring God

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0AgxWM1ipsU>

The Godly Influence of Grandparenting (Part 1) - Dr. James Dobson

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LLKJQO8wMSk>

The Godly Influence of Grandparenting (Part 2) - Dr. James Dobson

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYnNohwukSk>

Hand Sanitizer - Tim Hawkins

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wzxlv5vdN9I>

Bonus Stuff

Leviticus 19:32 (NIV)

"Rise in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God. I am the LORD."

Deuteronomy 4:9 (NIV)

9 Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

Deuteronomy 6:1-9 (NIV)

1 These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, **2** so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all His decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. **3** Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, promised you. **4** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. **5** Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. **6** These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. **7** Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. **8** Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. **9** Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

Proverbs 16:31 (ESV)

31 Gray hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life.

Psalms 92:12-15 (ESV)

12 The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. **13** They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God. **14** They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green, **15** to declare that the LORD is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

Psalms 72:9-18 (NIV)

9 Do not cast me away when I am old; do not forsake me when my strength is gone. **10** For my enemies speak against me; those who wait to kill me conspire together. **11** They say, "God has forsaken him; pursue him and seize him, for no one will rescue him." **12** Do not be far from me, my God; come quickly, God, to help me. **13** May my accusers perish in shame; may those who want to harm me be covered with scorn and

disgrace. **14** As for me, I will always have hope; I will praise You more and more. **15** My mouth will tell of Your righteous deeds, of Your saving acts all day long--though I know not how to relate them all. **16** I will come and proclaim Your mighty acts, Sovereign LORD; I will proclaim Your righteous deeds, Yours alone. **17** Since my youth, God, You have taught me, and to this day I declare Your marvelous deeds. **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.

Isaiah 40:28-31 (ESV)

28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable. **29** He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength. **30** Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; **31** but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

Quote by Jay Kessler

"Young people need something stable to hang on to — a culture connection, a sense of their own past, a hope for their own future. Most of all, they need what grandparents can give them."

Quote by Rudy Giuliani

"What children need most are the essentials that grandparents provide in abundance. They give unconditional love, kindness, patience, humor, comfort, lessons in life. And, most importantly, cookies."

An Irish Blessing

"Children are the rainbow of life. Grandchildren are the pot of gold."

Child of My Child

Child of my child, heart of my heart.

Your smile bridges the years between us...

I am young again, discovering the world through your eyes.

You have the time to listen and I have the time to spend,

Delighted to gaze at familiar, loved features made new in you again.

Through you, I see the future. Through me, you'll see the past.

In the present, we'll love one another as long as these moments last.

- Author Unknown

Does the Bible Say Anything About Grandparents?

By S. Michael Houdmann

<https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-grandparents.html>

Question: *"Does the Bible say anything about grandparents?"*

Answer: When most of the books of the Bible were written, parents and grandparents held positions of honor. Children were expected to revere their elders and learn from them. When God introduced the Law to the Israelite nation, He even included a commandment to “honor your father and your mother” ([Exodus 20:12](#)). God also made it part of His Law that the younger person should stand in the presence of the elderly as a sign of respect ([Leviticus 19:32](#)). Implied within this command is a multi-generational attitude of honor toward senior relatives. As children observed their parents honoring the grandparents, they, in turn, would shoulder that responsibility when their time came.

[Proverbs 17:6](#) says that “children’s children are the crown of old people.” Every grandparent understands that comparison. There is a special kind of bond between a grandparent and a grandchild that benefits both. Someone has humorously stated that “grandchildren are God’s reward for not killing your own children when they were teenagers.” Humor aside, there is some truth to that. Grandchildren, like children, are a reward—a blessing from the Lord and one way that He is good to us ([Psalm 127:3](#)).

Just as grandchildren have obligations to love and honor their grandparents, so do grandparents have responsibilities toward their children’s children. [Proverbs 13:22](#) says that “a good man leaves an inheritance to his children’s children.” Righteous people live wisely and pass on their wisdom, knowledge, and material blessings to their grandchildren. In our day, it has become common for grandparents to have full custody of their grandchildren due to the parents’ inability or unwillingness to rear their own children. While this is sad, it also demonstrates the unique love grandparents have that creates a willingness to begin the task of bringing up a child just when child-rearing was supposed to be finished. Few retirees would volunteer for the emotional, financial, and physical burden of rearing children again, but, because they are grandparents, they set aside their own desires for the needs of a grandchild.

The Bible gives examples of grandparents, and some of the grandparents were wicked: [2 Kings 11](#) recounts the sad story of [Athaliah](#), mother of King Ahaziah of Judah. When Ahaziah died, the Queen Mother ordered the execution of all her royal family so that she could take the throne. Unknown to her, one of Ahaziah’s sisters, Jehosheba, hid a baby grandson, [Joash](#), in a bedroom so that he escaped his grandmother’s bloody rampage. He and his nurse remained hidden in the temple for six years while his grandmother ruled Judah. When Joash was seven years old, the high priest brought him out, anointed him, put the crown on his head, and proclaimed little Joash king of Judah. When Athaliah saw this, she flew into a rage, but the godly high priest ordered her to be executed. Thus, it was the murder of his entire family by his own grandmother that ushered in the forty-year reign of King Joash of Judah.

An unusual grandparenting relationship is found in the [book of Ruth](#). The story of Ruth is a beautiful tale of love and loyalty between a young widow and her bereaved mother-in-law, Naomi. Although her husband is dead, Ruth chooses to stay with her mother-in-law to care for her. She even leaves her own people, the Moabites, to follow Naomi back to Israel where she meets and marries Boaz. When their first child is born, the

townspeople congratulate Naomi, saying, “Naomi has a son!” ([Ruth 4:14–17](#)). The child was no blood relation to Naomi, but, because of the love and connection between her and Ruth, she adopted the baby as her own grandchild. This reminds us that grandparenting can come in many forms. In this day of broken families, divorce, and step-parenting, godly men and women who will adopt their children’s step-children as their own grandchildren are blessed, as Naomi was blessed. Her adopted grandchild, Obed, became the grandfather of King David.

When God designed this world, He instituted the family as His means of propagating the earth and teaching us about love and relationship. He intended for the elder to teach the younger and for the younger to revere the elder. Grandparents play a unique role in this design. Free from the responsibility to train and discipline a child, grandparents can offer open arms, acceptance, and a safe place for a child to run when things are not going well with Mom and Dad. Grandparents can provide wisdom beyond that of the parents, since they have already walked this road many years before. A wise grandparent, though, will never intrude upon a parental decision in front of the child. A grandparent’s role is not to supersede the parent but to support, encourage, and counsel as needed. When parents, grandparents, and children are living out their roles as God designed, the entire family thrives.

Recommended Resource: [*Championship Grandfathering: How to Build a Winning Legacy by Carey Casey*](#)

- While he is not the author of every article on GotQuestions.org, for citation purposes, you may reference our CEO, S. Michael Houdmann.