

Investing in the Next Generation

Now

The next generation matters NOW!

Thank you to all the youth ministry leaders, children's ministry leaders, and the countless volunteers who help with summer camps, mission trips, and serve with Vacation Bible Schools. I am thankful that churches invest substantial time, money, and energy in the next generation NOW. We sometimes refer to our children and youth as the next generation. I understand that phraseology—but I also think the next generation is the NOW generation! Here are seven encouragements for investing in the next generation now:

1. God is at work in the next generation now.
2. God loves our families and wants them to experience Him more than we can imagine.
3. God calls us to invest in reaching and discipling our children and youth.
4. God is raising up our future leaders as we build up our younger generation in the faith.

5. God is pleased you are serving Him by investing your time and energy in the next generation.
6. God gets the attention of those around us as they see our heart for their families.
7. God blesses us by inviting us to be a part of seeing Him work in this next generation now.

This is personal for me. I look back at my own life and see the impact of next generation ministries. I look back, and I see the impact that people had on my life then and what would become of my life now. One of my first memories of church is Vacation Bible School as a third grader. I recall Mr. and Mrs. Smeltzer welcoming me to Sunday School. I still remember Mrs. Gentry challenging us to memorize the order of the books of the Bible. My youth pastor, Doug Jones, invested his time and energy in mentoring me. It was on a youth mission trip that I began to sense



BAUTRY@SBCV.ORG
BRIANAUTRY.COM
[FACEBOOK.COM/BRIAN.AUTRY.70](https://www.facebook.com/BRIAN.AUTRY.70)

the Lord's call to pastoral ministry. As a father, I've seen my own children greatly blessed by the investment of many others in their lives.

Again, thank you!

Keep pressing on as you proclaim the timeless teaching of God's Word, "that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children" (Psalm 78:6).

Thank you for investing in the next generation now!

Your brother in Christ,

Brian Autry

