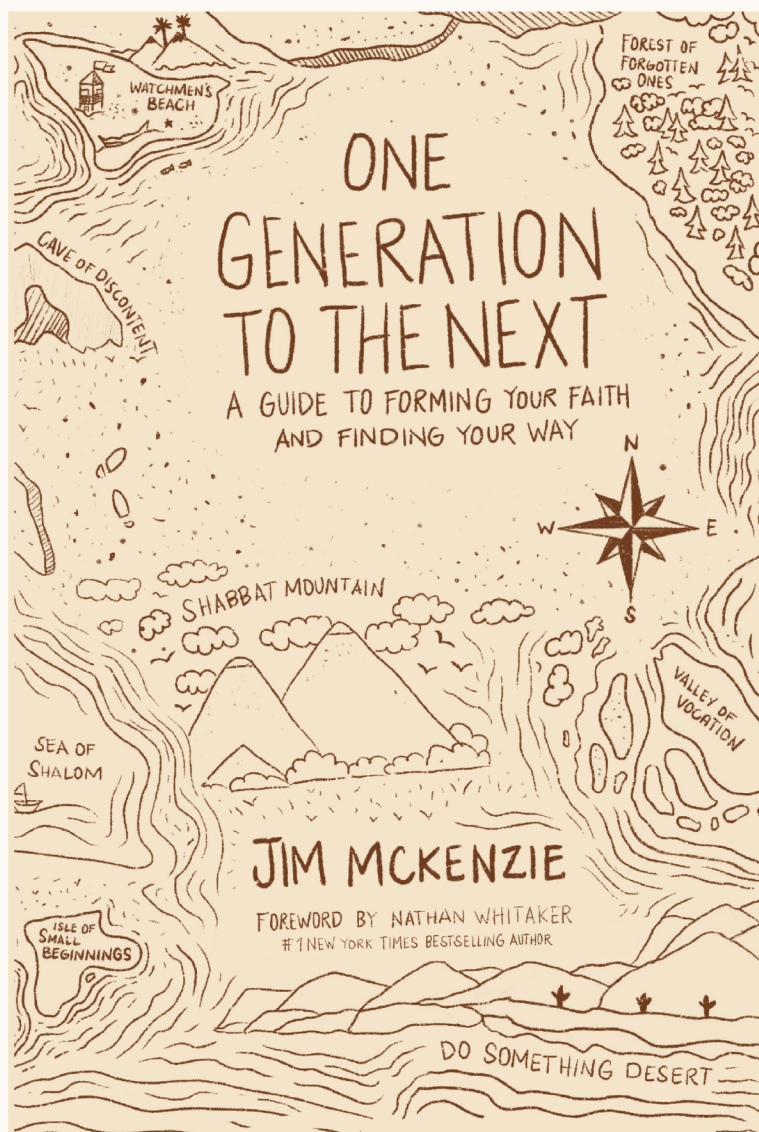


ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT: A READER'S GUIDE



BY JIM MCKENZIE



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INTRODUCTION

One Generation to the Next is my attempt to share an aspirational vision for following Jesus in today's world.

This Reader's Guide was created to help you explore the ideas of each chapter in greater detail, either as an independent exercise with a journal or together with others in a group setting.

In either format, my deep hope is that this guide will further equip you in your journey to follow Jesus.



CHAPTER ONE

SEEK SHALOM

01 WITH GOD

How do you experience peace with God? What causes that to be disrupted? In what ways do you pursue self-reliance?

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02 WITH CREATION

Creation reveals the Creator. Have you experienced that in your life? If so, what was it like? What keeps you from spending time in creation?

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03 WITH OTHERS

What does it mean to pursue shalom with others? What are the challenges of that in today's world? How can you help someone else to flourish?

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04 WITH SELF

Shalom with self is understanding that our identity is rooted in Jesus. Where else may you be tempted to root your identity?

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CHAPTER TWO

LOVE RIGHTLY

Following Jesus is about learning to love rightly, not live rightly. Three things I want to do to better love rightly:







LOVING RIGHTLY > LIVING RIGHTLY

Self-righteousness is the fruit of trying to live rightly rather than love rightly. Three things I want to stop doing so that I can prioritize loving rightly:







CHAPTER THREE

GO FURTHER

WARM-UP

What is your picture of the good life (telos)?

DISCUSSION

To miss the mark (sin) is to be guilty of idolatry or injustice. In what ways is this true in your life?

How would you summarize the Bible's view of vengeance?

How does the parable of The Prodigal Son illustrate the differences between retributive and restorative justice?

GOING DEEPER

Following Jesus is about living deeper in and further out. What could this look like in your life?

CHAPTER FOUR

DO SOMETHING

In his book *Faith for Exiles: 5 Ways for a New Generation to Follow Jesus in Digital Babylon*, David Kinnaman summarizes the three things God designed work to do. How do you see these callings manifested in your own life and those around you?

1

CREATE BEAUTY

When we become content with the world as it is and begin to accept the brokenness around us as “normal,” it is the creatives – our modern-day prophets – who call us to envision something better.

2

CREATE ABUNDANCE

These individuals have a natural ability to help things grow, whether in finances, leadership, or organizations. We need those who can create abundance – not for personal wealth or gain – but to meet the needs of those without.

3

CREATE ORDER

These are the scientists, engineers, researchers, and managers among us. In a world that feels like it is falling into chaos every day, those who create order provide the structures for humanity to flourish together.

CHAPTER FIVE

STAND WATCH

In this chapter, Jim discusses the lessons he learned as a lifeguard.
How would you apply each of these to your own life?

01 A SAFE DISTANCE

When someone is drowning, don't engage. Keep a safe distance. It's good to help those in need, but your safety matters too.



02 GO UNDER

Instead of engaging in the conflict and allowing it to escalate and risk the well-being of everyone involved, we can simply choose to go under. We choose humility.



03 STABILIZE THE BROKEN

So often, our reaction to broken people is forceful and aggressive, when what is needed, is a gentle and measured response. Stabilizing the broken requires tenderness and grace.



04 WATCH & WARN

We are commissioned by God to be watchmen. We have a responsibility to watch and warn, so let us ascend to high places so that we can find a better view.



CHAPTER SIX

START SMALL

WARM-UP

For Jim, it was Gideon. Who is it for you? What Bible figure do you most identify with?

DISCUSSION

God is sometimes big in small ways. How have you seen evidence of that in your own life?

Read Philippians 4:13 in context of Paul's writing. What encouragement does it offer to you in following Jesus?

Why should we have great joy when we face hardships?

GOING DEEPER

Why is it more important to develop our character than to develop our talents? And what does that look like in your life?

CHAPTER SEVEN

FINISH LAST

According to Jesus, greatness is defined as:









THE #GOAT BECAME THE LAMB

What is the difference between a sheep and a goat?

What response do you need to pre-load so you're ready?

How do you define success? How does Jesus?

CHAPTER EIGHT

KEEP THE BEAT

In this chapter, Jim discusses four spiritual disciplines that have helped him live a life in rhythm. How could you apply each of these to your own life?

01 SABBATH

The practice of Sabbath helps us to slow down so we can fill up. It's a weekly discipline that acts as a reset button on our hurried lives. It's a time to rest & worship.

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02 SCRIPTURE

As players in the Grand Story, it should be our intent to learn the script's origin and plot and then to improvise accordingly in moving the story toward its finale.

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03 PRAYER

When we pray, we talk with a Daddy, not a deity. We talk with a God who is knowable. We run from the one who is disappointed; we run to the one who is delighted.

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04 WORSHIP

Worship is not reminding God how great He is, it's reminding us how great God is. We are declaring who He is. In doing so, we remember who we are & whose we are.

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CHAPTER NINE

HOLD THE ROPE

WARM-UP

What's a song, that when you hear it, always brings back a specific memory from your past?

DISCUSSION

Describe a time in your life when you felt alone in the dark and wondered, "what am I going to do?"

What part of God's blessing in Numbers 6 is most encouraging or reassuring to you? Which part do you need to be reminded of the most?

GOING DEEPER

If the Christian faith is not something that we just believe, but it is something that we receive, how can you position yourself to best receive it and more of it?

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