

Ascending The Mountain

Session 8: Maintaining Love To Thousands

Intro Questions:

- How can sin affect people?
- How can sin today affect people 2 generations down from you?

Scripture:

Read Exodus 34:6-7, saying “Yahweh” when you see “LORD” in all caps.

Yahweh maintains love to thousands and forgives... but He also punishes the children and their children for the sin of their parents?? This week, we are discussing verse 7 of Yahweh's character, where we are going to see the effects that sin has on multiple generations and how God deals with it.

- What are your thoughts on this section? Are there any questions, confusion, wrestling, etc.?
- What do you think it means that God “punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation?”

Read Ezekiel 18:19-32

- What stands out to you here?
- How do you reconcile this with Exodus 34?

Read Jeremiah 32:18-19

- What similarities do you see with Exodus 34?
- What do you think it means that God brings the punishment for the parents' sins into the laps of their children?

Another way to say Exodus 34 would be to say that the children live in the punishment and consequences of their parents' sin. There are three layers to the children living in the punishment of their parents' sin.

1. *The sin of the parents has consequences for the children (whether directly or indirectly)*
2. *The sin of the parents runs in the family*
3. *The sin continues in the next generation, and because Yahweh is just, He will continue to punish sin in each generation until it's completely gone. God's desire is a world free from evil.*

Reflection:

- Print out and complete the [Generational Sin Worksheet](#).

After completing the worksheet, meditate on Romans 5:12-19 for a few minutes.

Yes, sin can and has entered the world because of ancestors and your direct family. And yes, their ins has had great effects on others and on you, but how much greater is the righteousness that is made available in Christ Jesus. Know that through Jesus, you have dominion over sin and generational curses and sin can stop at you!