The Imperative —

INSIDER

FALL 2024



Legacy Imperative achieves ECFA accreditation.

We are proud to announce that LI has been awarded accreditation by the prestigious Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability – following an exhaustive process that includes close scrutiny of a church's or ministry's finances, its board and governance, as well as its fundraising practices. The process usually takes about a year to complete, submit and review, but the LI Board, especially Board member Joshua Custer, President Dr. Bob, and COO, Ben Platter, put in long hours and accomplished it in 6 months!

Legacy Imperative is now listed among the 2700 of our nation's leading organizations that follow the model of biblical accountability, and impact some 2 billion people globally each year.

But accreditation is not "one-and-done." ECFA mandates an annual review of the 7 standards to which organizations must comply. This ensures our donors of total ongoing transparency and accountability.

We invite you to check it out!

Visit our Accredited Ministry Profile







Dr. Bob is on the move!

Following his own advice.



Dr. Bob has expanded his sphere of influence – from Naples to PA and Washington DC. He and Joyce moved into the Presbyterian Retirement Community of Quarryville, PA, just a short drive from their beloved daughter, son-in-law, and precious granddaughters. As he says, "We're excited to do what we tell other grandparents to do: stay in close contact with your grandchildren. After all," he adds, "That's the purpose of Legacy Imperative." Dr. Bob is also excited to explore new opportunities for LI's NEXT GEN Summits from DC to Maine!

Don't be dismayed if you'll miss attending Bob's local presentations or joining him for coffee or lunch! He'll be returning to SW Florida at least once a month for events, meetings, and gatherings with friends and staff, and will continue to lead the LI national team through personal and virtual meetings.

Calvary Church: a Summa Summit!

SW Florida friends take it "Up North."

NEXT GEN Summits go viral when enthusiastic participants take it to their churches "Up North." Linda and Paul Wicklund, and Barb and Glenn Martin caught the Summit "virus" in Naples and carried it to Calvary Church in Roseville, MN, a Twin Cities suburb, where the foursome chaired the most successful Summit yet.

Planning began in January with a committed grandparent team of 50. Church member, Christian radio personality and LI advocate, Wayne Pederson, emceed the introductory kickoff. The team personalized and employed the Summit marketing materials from the LI website, along with radio advertisements and testimonials, and targeted email campaigns. The result? Some 250 members registered and attended the 2-day Summit! Dr. Bob also consulted with Calvary elders and staff the evening after the Summit on *How to Build a NextGen Church* and addressed an overflow crowd on Sunday morning. In all, he spoke to more than 350 grandparents, who'll impact 1,740 grandkids and 1,100 adult children.

One grandparent summed it up: "I was thinking of staying home. But I gave in to my wife and came AND I'm grateful I did!"

As Ben recounts, "Calvary's success is witness to how actively engaged grandparents can refire to use their gifts, skills, time, resources, and passion to become missionaries to their adult children and grandchildren."



Calvary Summit participants were enthusiastic about the experience. Here's what impressed them:

"I was motivated to keep loving, to keep investing, to keep praying for my grandchildren!"

"Telling my story helps them establish roots and identity."

"When you can't talk to your grandchildren about Jesus, talk to Jesus about your grandchildren."

"How to keep the 'grand' in grandparent and be present with grandkids; put down the cellphones." "I don't have children or grandchildren, but I still want to leave a Christian mark on young people."

"It was a great reinforcement to stay motivated to <u>do</u> and not just have good intentions."

"Problems with irritating behavior can instead be seen as an opportunity to cast a positive vision for my grandkids."

Reaching Critical Grandparent Mass: Retirement Communities

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Reaching Critical Grandparent Mass: Retirement Communities

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"Connecting Hearts" Bridges the Generational Divide...

So many followers of Christ—especially grandparents—are feeling the pain of adult children leaving the Church or forbidding them to share their Faith with grandkids. Many NextGen loved ones are abandoning their Faith, experiencing gender and sexual confusion, or canceling those with opposing views. The heartache acute.

That's why so many grandparents and parents have sought guidance from LI. And that's why we created *Connecting Hearts: An Evening with Dr. Bob*, where attendees can ask their most pressing questions about difficult issues and get the guidance they need to bridge the generational gap with NextGen loved ones and bring them to Faith. In many cases, the evening also provides an introduction and entry point to the NEXT GEN Summit.







Summer Events and Conferences: Partnership Opportunities

Dr. Bob addresses supporters of the Chequamegon Pregnancy Center

The messages and missions of pregnancy resource centers and LI go hand-in-hand. Dave Berg, member of the Chequamegon Center's board of directors and longtime LI advocate, invited Dr. Bob to share his testimony and the LI message with 200 attendees at the Center's donor dinner. Dr. Bob also gave a call to donors to continue their generous support of the Center. Attendees were inspired to support and learn more about LI as well. Attendees also received copies of Dr. Bob's *The Book of Amazing Stories: 90 Devotions on Seeing God's Hand in Unlikely Places*.

Are You a SW Florida Resident? Save the Date! The NEXT GEN Summit is coming to Covenant Church of Naples.

If you're looking for the tools to reach and transform your NextGen loved ones, join us on Friday, Feb. 7 (doors open at 5 pm, evening ends at 8:30), and Saturday, Feb. 8 (8 am continental breakfast to 12:30 pm close). All are welcome to attend these riveting and informative sessions! It's free, but you must register to participate. The registration link will be coming soon!

To donate, and for more valuable resources on building bridges with the next generations

Go to www.legacyimperative.org

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