

## White Blood Count

Children/Youth

Psalm 78:1-7; Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Our stories form us and make us the persons we are as we grow into adults. Today's texts both emphasize the importance of sharing our story, which is God's story, with our children. The next generation is our life blood.

The psalm writer knew how important our stories are. He knew that it is in telling the stories that we shape our lives. The verses of the Psalm are very clear, "*O my people, listen to my instructions. Open your ears to what I am saying, for I will speak to you in a parable. I will teach you hidden lessons from our past— stories we have heard and known, stories our ancestors handed down to us. We will not hide these truths from our children; we will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord, about his power and his mighty wonders*" (Psalm 78:1-4 NLT)

Part of following Jesus Christ and sitting in these pews is not to keep it to ourselves. This Psalm charges us to tell our children, for it is in telling the future generation, that they can become the future. How can we expect a church to grow, if we aren't willing to tell our story? How can we expect our children to follow the right path, if we don't tell them the stories which show them the way? How can we expect our children to believe in Jesus Christ, if we don't tell them the wonderful story of a God who loved us so much that he 'humbled himself' and died on a cross for our sins and rose again.

### Possible Preaching Activities:

- Begin the sermon by telling your family stories and those stories of the scripture that influenced your life.
- Encourage intergenerational ministry and have someone 'adopt' a child of their church who is not a relative.
- Plan a meal with the community to share their stories.