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CS501
Rynkiewicz's *Soul, Self, and Society* chapter 5

Thesis: In order to understand a people group you need to understand how they view themselves, their family lines, and how they organize their social order.

Summary: In this chapter Rynkiewicz explored the many various ways cultures view themselves through their family lines. Some cultures trace back through their fathers and others through their mothers. He also explained how many cultures refer to each other depending on whose side of the family and which generation one was referencing. It is important to understand that people view themselves differently than you or I might and that it is ok.

Interaction: This section has been interesting to me as I have a dear friend who is Korean. She is 80 years old (but very young at heart.) She has been in America most of her adult life. She became a Christian in Korea. She has real heart for the Lord's work and she spent much of her adult life working with college-age kids and ministering to them. The thing that I have noticed in her when she talks about her family (siblings/parents) is how strong the Korean tradition of gender dominance within the family still affects her and upsets her. She was the oldest of 4 children with the only brother being the youngest. Her father was an extremely wealthy businessman. When her father died, he left the bulk of his financial fortune to his one son and token gifts to his daughters. Apparently, her mother was aware of this impending scenario so she took action to provide for her daughters by investing in jewelry and fashion that would be given to them upon her passing. While my friend accepts this as "how it is" it still hurts her.

Questions:

1. I wonder how many generations it takes to make a change that becomes the new normal?
2. Why are some people so bound to tradition and unwilling to make any changes at all?