

BRIDING THE GENERATIONAL DIVIDE WITH BOOMER & Z
EPISODE 1: HOW TO DISAGREE AGREEABLY

look back

First, **LOOK BACK** at the past week by asking, "How did we do?" Begin with prayer, then check in with one another—sharing honestly, celebrating victories, acknowledging struggles, and graciously offering practical help.

PRAYER - Ask God to give you wisdom, humility, and love as you consider the relationships in your life. Pray for open hearts and a willingness to listen, learn, and grow.

Since this is the first episode in this series, take time to:

- Where do you notice the greatest differences between your generation and the generations coming behind you?
- What topics tend to be the most difficult for different generations to discuss?
- What have you learned from someone significantly older or younger than you?

look up

Next, **LOOK UP** to God's Word by asking, "What does Jesus want us to know?" If you haven't already, watch this week's video: "*How to Disagree Agreeably.*" Then use the summary, questions, and Scriptures below to draw out the main truths together.

WATCH: Episode 1: How to Disagree Agreeably

Episode Summary

Deep disagreements can make honest conversations difficult, especially when they involve people we love. Grandparents often have a unique opportunity to become "cheerleaders" rather than "coaches," creating space for younger generations to talk openly without feeling that every conversation must end in correction or agreement.

Following Jesus does not require us to choose between truth and love. We can hold firmly to biblical convictions while treating those who disagree with us with patience and grace. Listening does not mean agreeing, and loving someone does not mean abandoning what we believe. Sometimes we can protect the relationship, speak truth when the opportunity comes, and trust God with what happens next.

HOW TO USE THESE RESOURCES

Whether you're studying on your own or with a group, each guide follows a simple yet powerful rhythm: **Look Back / Look Up / Look Forward.** For group leaders, additional instructions for leading a small group are included at the end of the first workbook in each series.

ABOUT THIS STUDY

Generational differences can become deep divides over faith, politics, gender and sexuality, morality, and other important beliefs. This four-part series models how we can hold firmly to biblical truth while listening well, speaking with grace, and building stronger relationships with those who see the world differently.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Why can conversations about deeply held beliefs—such as faith, politics, morality, gender, or sexuality—feel especially difficult within families?
2. What advantages might grandparents have as "cheerleaders" rather than "coaches" in the lives of their grandchildren?
3. How can fear of rejection or disappointment affect the way people on both sides of a disagreement communicate?
4. What is the difference between genuinely listening to someone and agreeing with what they believe?
5. What might it look like to hold firmly to biblical truth while also protecting a loving relationship with someone who sees things very differently?

Strong relationships can make room for strong disagreements.

WHAT DOES GOD'S WORD SAY?

KEY SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 2:23–25 - "Don't have anything to do with foolish and stupid arguments, because you know they produce quarrels. And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful. Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth." We are not to abandon truth, but to communicate it without hostility or quarrelsomeness. We can speak with kindness and gentleness while trusting God to work in another person's heart.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 4:15 - "Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ." Truth and love are not competing values. Christian maturity calls us to hold them together. Our goal is not simply to prove that we are right, but to become more like Christ in both what we say and how we say it.

look forward

Finally, **LOOK FORWARD** by asking, "What does Jesus want us to do?" Commit to practical steps for living out this week's lesson. Review the assignment, share commitments with the group, pray for one another, and move forward together in faith and hope.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

Romans 12:18
Proverbs 15:1
Colossians 4:5–6

THIS EPISODE'S ASSIGNMENT

Think of **one person you love with whom you have an important disagreement.**

This week, take one intentional step toward strengthening that relationship. Ask a genuine question, listen without preparing your response, spend time together, or simply express your love and interest in their life.

Don't make resolving the disagreement your goal. Make loving the person well your goal, and pray for God to guide your conversations over time.

PERSONAL GROWTH COMMITMENTS

- What has God laid on my heart?
- What is the Holy Spirit leading me to change?
- What will I do in my own life, in my relationships, and to strengthen my family?

SHARE WITH THE GROUP

Share one relationship or conversation you would especially like prayer for this week. Pray for wisdom, patience, courage, and grace—and ask God to help you faithfully hold truth and love together.

ESSENTIALS FOR LEADING A SMALL GROUP

These principles help create a safe, encouraging environment where everyone can grow and connect:

- **Begin with Prayer –** Invite Jesus into the meeting and ask for His guidance. Prayer can also help refocus if discussion drifts or stalls.

- **Create a Welcoming Setup –** Sit in a circle so everyone can see each other. Affirm contributions and foster an atmosphere where every question and comment is welcomed without judgment.

- **Facilitate, Don't Lecture –** Guide the conversation using thoughtful, Scripture-based questions. Aim for participants to do most of the talking while you model active listening.

- **Stay on Mission –** Gently redirect if conversation strays into politics or unrelated topics, keeping focus on the greater purpose of reaching and discipling the next generation.

- **Model Grace & Openness –** Be transparent about your own journey, admit you don't have all the answers, and set expectations for confidentiality, respect, and grace.

- **Build Relationships –** Include some social time before or after the episode to strengthen trust and connection.

- **Follow the Look Back / Look Up / Look Forward Rhythm –** Stick to the format for balance, and practice compassionate accountability—celebrating progress and offering grace for struggles.