Pressed In

09.25.2022 - 1 Timothy 4:10-12

Cousin Kimmy's Seven Layer Dip.

By themselves, there is nothing to fancy going on here. Together, borderline miraculous.

There are 7 different components of life that individually are good, but together are incredible!

- 1. Word
- 2. Conduct
- 3. Love
- 4. Spirit
- 5. Faith
- 6. Purity
- 7. Perspective (Not listed but described)

PERSPECTIVE

(12) Let no one despise your youth...

Youth: until 40 – it's true there are 60 your old children but that will be a different sermon on a different day. **Despise**: contemn, despise, disdain, think little or nothing of.

There is a great <u>encouragement</u> as well as a <u>warning</u>.

Warning: to the older generation, the Lord is holding up a mirror that we need to look into. Do we discredit someone's ability because of their age?

The danger of becoming an Old Wine Skin

- Samuel: young but chosen
- David: young but chosen (I do not see how you see)
- *Ruth:* widowed at a young age but displayed a very mature loyalty, commitment, and faith.
- **Joseph:** 17 when sold into slavery, ran from his boss's wife, heart stayed soft when forgotten, etc.
- Apollos being disciple by Aquilla and Pricilla... shown the more excellent way. – CBI Idaho Vision & Restoration Ranch

The Warning and now The Encouragement

This is not a "Get Out of Jail Free Card."

As if you are not untouchable because you are young.

Proverbs 22:15 Foolishness is bound up in the heart of a child;

Albert Barnes said when considering "despising your youth..."

"That is, do not act in such a manner that **<u>any</u>** shall despise you on account of your youth.

Tired of being thought little of? Stop thinking little of where you are in life. "The best way to shut the mouths of critical people is to live a life that is hard to critique." – live for Jesus, not for people, and most certainly not for self.

How you view your age is how others will view your age.

Sharks and Blood

If you think you cannot because you are too young... like a shark that can smell blood in the water over a mile away, people older than you will see the unnecessary insecurity and dismiss your potential effectiveness.

Encouragement/Exhortation: Your age is not a limitation. Factor yes, hindrance, no. Do <u>*not*</u> forsake what you are called to because others consider you "unable" due to your age.

To those who see themselves as older...

Have you checked out for the last few minutes or does your heart resonate with what Paul is saying to young Timothy?

We must be a church that embraces, disciples, and grows ministers.

This all comes down to how you see yourself in the light of who God is.

Isaiah 6:8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?

Zec. 4:7 This is the word of the Lord... 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the LORD of hosts.

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Not as a chant that would be cheered at a sporting event but as a fact that propels you through life... As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

The deck was stacked against him... at least in one category. AGE Russian grandma – now you look like a man

One of two things will happen

- A. You let their mindset become your mindset
- B. You let God's mind become your mind

The road out of being despised is paved by conduct and character

Conduct is how you live Character is who you are

Example: a figure formed by a blow or impression, conformity.

If you have ever watched a blacksmith heat and beat steal until it is perfectly shaped Joel taught on 1 Peter last week that the furnace of trials refines our faith like gold. Or watched a potter pull and press clay into a variety of shapes until it is finished. *As a believer, it is to be evident that our lives have been pressed into Jesus.*

Titus 2:7 in all things showing yourself *to be* a pattern of good works; in doctrine *showing (being pressed into)* integrity, reverence, incorruptibility,

1 Corinthians 9:27 But I discipline (beat) my body and bring *it* into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.

1. Word

In word: speech, the act of speaking, skill and practice in speaking, style of speaking.

James 3:2 For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he *is* a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.

5-6 Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell.

No man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison, with it we curse men and bless God. (We cannot but God can.)

Sunday night David

Sarcasm careful about it

Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue Super Jude & Awesome Ezra

Ephesians 4:15 but, speaking the truth in love, <u>may grow up</u> in all things into Him who is the head - Christ

2. Conduct

You may talk the talk but do you walk the walk? In conduct: behavior, the way in which you act and react to life

Are there things you do that would look strange if a 50 year old did it?

Don't get me wrong... the youthful energy, passion, and vision are awesome. But person?

Like a car needs a gas peddle and a steering wheel the church needs the young and old to work together.

1 Peter 1:15-16 but as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all *your* <u>conduct</u>, because it is written, *"Be holy, for I am holy."*

Be an example – *press* into the character of Christ

3. Love

In love: agape - benevolent or charitable

Compassion = care + action

Note: this kind of love is not an emotion but an action.

Galatians 5:13 For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not *use* liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but *through* LOVE serve one another.

I am not free to be a foolish Christian.. but a fool for Christ, forgiveness, restoration, aid

Romans 13:10 Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

Romans 5:8 But God <u>demonstrates</u> His own **love** toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

God does not judge with partiality... neither should we

4. Spirit

In spirit: your disposition, what animates your body and face.

Your personality and body language. – look them in the eye, shake their hand, etc.

Matthew 5:3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

The inside of who you really are & what you bring to a room when you walk into it.

5. Faith

In faith: faith mixed with faithfulness... not academic but active

Matthew 8:10 When Jesus heard *it*, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!

Matthew 9:2 Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you."

Belief = teachings you associate with truth

Faith takes those beliefs and does something with them

Facilitators: do not worry about what you will say

I will not leave you nor forsake you... steps of Capitol

Fear is not the absence of belief, it is the absence of faith.

Mark 4:40 But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How *is it* that you have no faith?"

When things seem hard – ask Jesus for the same thing the disciples asked. **Luke 17:5** And the apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith."

Barnabas after Stephen was killed/stoned

Acts 11:24 For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord.

6. Purity

In purity: sinlessness of life

NOT MIXED WITH ANYTHING... fruit punch is polluted water. Moral Christianity Covetousness (A lack of contentment) Laziness (your poverty will come upon you like a lion) Sexual Immorality

2 Timothy 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts; but *<u>pursue</u>* righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

Flee <u>and</u> Pursue "Not just what you are running from but what you are running to." Imagine turning your back to a lion but not running from it.

Perspective – Word – Conduct – Love – Spirit – Faith – Purity

1 Timothy 4:15 Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. – when is the last time you sat with the Lord and prayerfully thought through life?

1 timothy 4:10 For to this *end* we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.