

Bridging the Generation Gap

Nov. 21, 2021

Scriptures: Ephesians 2:14-18; 1 Timothy 5:1-4; Titus 2:1-3

Bottom Line: How we treat each other depends on how we see each other

"We are being conditioned to mistrust each other, especially those in authority. We must focus on building life-giving relationships that bridge the generation gaps because there is a richness and unity that comes in discipling each other."

Ephesians 2:14-18

- Jesus breaks down every barrier
- We must see each other through our relationship with Jesus

1 Timothy 5:1-4

- We are instructed to see the church as family

Titus

- We are called to have love and patience for each other, learn and grow together

Why Intergenerational Friendships?

- Wisdom
- Humility
- A stronger faith

Challenges of Intergenerational Friendships

- Social awkwardness
- Cynical stereotypes
- Lack of common ground

What Can I Do?

- Take a relational inventory
- Ask someone from another generation to teach you something
- Identify faith champions for your children
- Take digital sabbaths

LISTENING

Have someone in your group share something about their week. They could answer one of the following questions:

- What was a big challenge or problem you faced this week? How did you handle it?
- Where did you experience God this week? Or where do you wish you had experienced God this week?
- Based on your life experience this week, what do you think God is trying to teach you right now? What is He trying to build in you?

After the person shares, the group can respond. Make sure you let them know you heard them: tell them what you heard, offer wise advice where it's asked for, share from your own experience as well.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Review Sunday's message. What stood out to you? What challenged you? Are there any lingering questions?
2. Share a story of an intergenerational friendship you know.
3. What are the common misconceptions people have of other generations?
4. What do you wish you had learned from someone older?
5. How can you or your small group get to know someone from another generation?