

■ Titus 2:1-8 "The Importance of Intergenerational Relationships in the Church"

Key Thought/Action: Intergenerational relational efforts payoff by sharing examples of faith and displaying the uniqueness of Christ's love to the world

When we make friends with older and younger people in our church, we can be encouraged by each other's faith in Jesus, and others who aren't Christians will know that we are following Jesus.

Special Announcement:

Announcement for Sunday:

In December 2016, Todd Carvell and Travis Sauder were licensed toward ordination as your associate pastors. Now you as a congregation have strongly affirmed them to be ordained as they continue as your associate pastors. Thank you for your participation in the affirmation ballot. We received 58 ballots. We plan to ordain Todd and Travis to the ministry during the Sunday morning service on September 22. -Bishop Carl Sensenig

Children's Church dismissal:

Welcome/Prayer:

Philippians 1:9-11 New International Reader's Version (NIRV)

9 I pray that your love will grow more and more. And let it be based on knowledge and understanding. 10 Then you will be able to know what is best. Then you will be pure and without blame for the day that Christ returns. 11 You will be filled with the fruit of right living produced by Jesus Christ. All these things bring glory and praise to God.

Review:

Wedding of Adam Einink & Maranda Gockley's (Now Maranda Einink)

My dad & mom's 57th anniversary

Marriage is a

God loves you a lot.

Grandparents

Passing on the Faith

What faith have you received?

from whom?

What faith are you passing on?

Intro:

Members Meeting back in May, SWOT Analysis ...

Mark 7:1-13 "Commands or Traditions" ... Age based ministry groupings (not all bad, but is it always best?)

- People of different ages have different interests,
- in our school systems we've learned associate with our own grade level primarily

- Our church pattern might not be quite as exact but I'm not sure we are a whole lot better
- It's natural to gravitate toward "our kind" just look at most family reunions
- Our culture tends to glorify youth and dishonor seniors
- If one generation was missing from our church, how much would you miss them?

Younger people benefit.

According to David Kinnaman in his book, *You Lost Me: Why Young Christians are Leaving the Church and Re-Thinking the Faith*, only three in ten will be sustained in their faithfulness to the church. This is no doubt a nuanced issue, but what remains clear is that children and young adults who develop relationships with those outside of their own age group are more likely to stay connected to a church body.

Older people benefit.

2015 article by posted by the National Council on Aging

Connections with Community and Family—Not Money—Most Important for Seniors' Quality of Life

Relationships with friends and family outweigh financial concerns among older Americans seeking fulfillment in their senior years, according to the second annual United States of Aging Survey. When asked what is most important to maintaining a high quality of life in their senior years, staying connected to friends and family was the top choice of 4 in 10 seniors, ahead of having financial means (30 percent).

Landis Homes - Day Care Center

Scripture:

Titus 2:1-8

1 Timothy 4:12 New International Version (NIV) 12 Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

Psalms 145:4 New International Version (NIV) 4 One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.

We generally learn best by example.

We are to be examples to others, including other generations.

Do our structures and traditions encourage this or create barriers to this, hinder it

Example/Personal or Others:

-Katie Polski wife to Chris, a PCA pastor at Trinity church in Kirkwood, MO ...

My husband sat at the bedside of an elderly woman in our congregation who was near the end of her life. She pulled my husband close and said, "Pastor, I don't like some of those new songs we sing in church, but the young people like them, so keep singing them because we need those young people." What great perspective from someone who recognized the importance of intergenerational relationships within the body of Christ.

Ruth Horst - purposeful conversations with younger generation

Summary:

Scripture exhorts us to have intergenerational relationships

We are to be examples to one another in different generations.
We are to speak about our relationship with God to other generations

Challenge/Application:

- Intergenerational missions and service projects
- Volunteering in the church body
 - Helping in a SS class of a different age
 - Helping in Children's church
 - Maybe even one time event
 - hosting youth events in their home
- Consider having an older or younger couple for dinner
- Sit somewhere different in church some Sundays
- Invite someone of a different generation to sit with you at a fellowship meal
- extend vbs or other youth programs to sometimes include families.
 - Excited for next BKCX
- I would love to hear and see your ideas!!!
- I think we have room to grow in this ... but we have much to gain!
- They will know we are Christians by our love for one another!

Why work connecting with people younger and older than you?

1. God tells us to
2. We are encouraged by one another's faith
3. It's our love for one another that's our best witness

Prayer:

Song:

Sharing Time:

Benediction:

Young Adults not being able to really say what they believe

Creeds

MH 720

Newsboys - We Believe (Lyric Video)

Other Resources:

<https://www.rootedministry.com/blog/the-value-of-intergenerational-relationships-in-the-church/>