

SERIES DISCUSSION GUIDE



THE LOCKER ROOM | NEXT MAN UP
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CONNECTION

- Who is someone from a different generation who encouraged, taught or influenced you? What has stayed with you?

MESSAGE RECAP

The final week of *The Locker Room*, we were challenged to value the strength and passion of younger generations alongside the wisdom and experience of older ones. Just as the Apostle Paul invested in Timothy, we have an opportunity to encourage, equip, and learn from one another. God's story continues through every generation, and each of us has a part to play in helping the next generation grow in faith.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Throughout the Bible, God is described as the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God's story continues from one generation to the next. Why do you think it's important that God's story is passed from one generation to another?
2. **Read Proverb 20:29.** The verse points to the strength of youth and the wisdom that comes with age. Where have you personally benefited from the strength, perspective, or experience of someone in a different season of life?
 - What assumptions do we sometimes make about people from other generations? How can those assumptions affect our relationships?
 - What do you think your generation has to offer others? What could you learn from a generation different from your own?

3. Have you ever felt overlooked because of your age or stage of life or underestimated someone else for theirs? What happened?
4. **Read 1 Timothy 4:12.** Paul encouraged Timothy not to let his age keep him from setting an example. He also reminded Timothy of the gifts that others had recognized in him.
 - In ancient culture, respect for age was the norm. How would delegating authority to a younger person have challenged that expectation, and what does this reveal about Paul's view of spiritual leadership?
 - How can we recognize and encourage the gifts of younger people rather than waiting for them to be older before giving them opportunities to contribute?
 - Paul encouraged Timothy to set an example in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity. Which area (speech, conduct, love, faith, purity) do you feel is currently your strongest? Which one needs the most growth?
5. **Read 1 Timothy 5:1-2.** What is one way your Group could create more opportunities for the various generations represented to learn from each other?
6. **Read Psalm 78:4-8.** These verses describe passing on the story of what God has done. What is a story of God's faithfulness in your life that you would want another generation to know?
 - How does remembering what God has done in the past directly change how we place our hope in Him during present struggles?
 - Who might benefit from hearing that story?

APPLICATION QUESTION *(This section is designed to invite group members to reflect on and do on their own.)*

1. This week, ask God: "Who from another generation could I encourage, learn from, or invest in?" Then take one practical step like start a conversation, pray for them, offer help, or make time to listen.

LEADERS: MEN'S NIGHT is Friday, October 23 at the Yard & Grill on the Richmond Campus! Pre-party begins at 6 PM, followed by the service at 7:30 PM. High school guys and up are welcome. Cost: \$20. Encourage the men in your Group to invite a friend and register at rpc.me/events.

CLOSE IN PRAYER

God, Thank you for the people who have gone before us, invested in us, and helped shape our faith and our lives. Help us be a church where every generation is valued. Help us to see the gifts You've placed in one another. Encourage us to equip and make room for those coming behind us. May the next generation know You and follow Jesus because of how we've loved and invested in them. Amen.