

*To All Generations: Becoming a Church That Passes on the Faith*

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### **It Takes a Church to Raise a Christian**

*“One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.”*

(Psalm 145:4)

#### **1. Why We Need Intergenerational Community:**

*“You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>2</sup> and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” (2 Timothy 2:1-2)*

#### **2. How We Nurture Intergenerational Community:**

*“Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior....They are to teach what is good, <sup>4</sup> and so train the young women.” (Titus 2:3-4)*

**For Further Thought and Discussion:****Getting Started:**

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?
2. Describe your closest intergenerational relationship/friendship (outside of your immediate family). How often do you see this person? How close are you?

**Going Deeper:**

3. How does Paul describe Timothy's mission (2 Timothy 2:1-2)? How many generations does Paul mention in these verses? Why *must* God's people pursue intergenerational relationships (see Psalm 78:1-7; 145:4; see also 1 Timothy 3:15 and Jude 3)?
4. In 1 Timothy 3:15, Paul refers to the church as a "*household*".
  - How does Paul flesh out this image in 1 Timothy (see 1 Timothy 1:2; 3:4-5; 5:1-2; compare Jesus' words in Mark 3:31-35; 10:28-30)? How does viewing the church as a family change our view of intergenerational ministry?
  - How does it change the way nuclear families look at their relationship to the church?
  - How does it change the way we look at the next generation (even if we aren't related to them)?

**Application:**

5. Jeff shared a variety of ways Creekside seeks to nurture intergenerational community. Which of these stood out to you? Why? How are you investing in the next generation at Creekside? What is one practical way you could do this?
6. Who invests in you spiritually? If you're a man, do you have an older man you can go to for spiritual counsel (Titus 2:2, 6)? If you're a woman, do you have an older woman you can go to for spiritual counsel (Titus 2:3-5)? If not, what steps could you take to pursue this kind of relationship? Pray, and ask God to lead you to this kind of relationship.
7. What's one thing you can do this week to apply this message?