

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....”
John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a



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GROWTH GUIDE

Handout: 09/23/18

Study: 09/30/18

We Love Our Church Family

Christians of all ages have something to offer to the worshipping life of the community. More seasoned believers may have wisdom to impart upon those who are younger. Younger believers may have vision and energy that may be a breath of fresh air for a community. All generations are valuable, necessary, and biblical. Scripture is full of references to the Lord working through both young and old to accomplish his purposes. Take a look at Deuteronomy 4:9. In urging Israel to remain obedient and to not return to the sins of the past, God instructs the community by saying, “Be careful never to forget what you yourself have seen. Do not let these memories escape from your mind as long as you live! And be sure to pass them on to your children and grandchildren.” Those who have walked in the faith before us have an obligation to point the community towards Christ and to ensure that we know and remember the truth.

In the same way, the young can point the community in ways that other generations may miss. Look at the story of Samuel and Eli in 1 Samuel 3. The Lord spoke to Samuel, and after some guidance, God communicated an important message about Israel’s future through the obedience of a boy. Each generation must rely on the ones before it and behind it to get a wider glimpse of what God may be doing. The truth is that we need each other, and no age is more important or should carry more weight than the other. Here are a few things to consider:

We must die to preference. Our culture is one that demands individualization. I can custom order almost anything nowadays. If it isn’t exactly how I want it, most stores will accommodate. While this may not be inherently evil, it can be problematic when it comes to church life. We are part of community, a living breathing body. Our preferences will likely not be completely met, but that is alright. Dying to preference is not easy or pleasant, but it is the path to unity. We must always look at the big picture of the vision of the community and work for what is best for all.

We must learn from one another. I had a guitar instructor who placed a high importance on listening to a piece of music multiple times before ever picking up the instrument. If I wanted to learn something, he insisted that I learn the art and discipline of listening. What makes this song unique? Beautiful? Challenging? We must listen and learn from one another, valuing the unique perspective that each person possesses. When we respect and value each voice, we become a more robust expression of Christ in the world.

We must walk in love (Eph. 5). Whether we realize it or not, our neighbors are watching. They see how we treat one another. So if you are a twenty-something, your friends will notice if you value and respect those older than you, especially those in your church family. And if you are further along in years, your peers will also see what it looks like to guide and support those coming behind you. We demonstrate to the world what community is to be, and we do this best as a family. That certainly means we won’t get it right all the time, but our goal is always to proceed and act out of love.

Source: “Being Multigenerational” by Stewart Fenters

KEY VERSE

I Timothy 5:1-2

Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father, younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, with all purity. NKJV

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: I Timothy 5:1-2

Being a Multigenerational Church Family

1. What are some words you would use to describe your family growing up?
2. What does it mean to relate to believers older than you as fathers and mothers and younger believers as brothers and sisters?
3. What are some benefits of having multigenerational relationships?
4. What are some challenges of having multigenerational relationships?

Tuesday: Matthew 12:46-50

Example of Jesus

5. Who did Jesus say is in his spiritual family?
6. How are the relationships you have with others at church important to your life?

Wednesday: Romans 8:15-17; Ephesians 2:19

Unity

7. How can we practice unity so that we don't have divisions in our church family?
8. Since all believers are the children of God, what does that mean for our church?
9. How does being fellow citizens and members of the household of God impact our church?

Thursday: Romans 12:10-13; Matthew 20:26-27

Humility

10. How do you show brotherly love and honor to others at our church? How have others shown this love and honor to you?
11. How can humility help us to be unified?

Friday: Ephesians 5:25; Matthew 16:18

Jesus Loves Our Church And So Should You

12. As the sermon series closes, how would you rate your love for Capital Baptist Church?
13. What are some things that God has taught you during this series? What are some ways you will demonstrate your love for our church?