



Someone to look up to

Sermon Notes

Text: 1 Timothy 4:12

Intro:

We all need someone to look up to. An example to follow. Someone to inspire us.

Paul encouraged Timothy to be someone others could look up to even at his young age:

“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.” - 1 Timothy 4:12

“For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.”

- 2 Timothy 1:6-7

1. Age Does Not = Spiritual Maturity

Job 12:12-13 - Wisdom and maturity often come with age, but ultimately they belong to God.

The Bible is full of examples of God putting his Spirit on young and inexperienced people:

- David
- Samuel

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- Esther
- Jeremiah

2. We Need Each Other

We are all called to be examples of “whole life obedience” (Speech, conduct, love, faith and purity).

Timothy, as a young person, was someone that both young and old could look up to.

Paul, as an older person, was someone that Timothy could look up to.

Don’t be quick to judge another generation. Instead, speak life, encourage, challenge, correct and inspire one another.

We need each other in the body of Christ.

3. Look Up to Jesus

Ultimately, we are all called to look up to Jesus because he alone is perfect in speech, perfect in conduct, perfect in love, perfect in faith and perfect in purity.

Be a “looking glass” that draws the attention off of yourself and towards Jesus.

Conclusion: Being an Example that Brings Jesus into Focus

- a) Build your relationship with Jesus.
- b) Build your relationship with Others.
- c) Model repentance over perfection.

Bethel Church Penticton - Sunday November 12, 2017 - Pastor Joe Bott

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What element(s) of the Youth Emphasis Service did you appreciate the most, or found the most meaningful?

Study & Discussion:

1. Read 1 Timothy 4:12 & 2 Timothy 1:6-7. What do you notice about the Paul/Timothy relationship? What stands out to you about Paul's character? Timothy's?
2. Look at the list of "whole life obedience" in 1 Timothy 4:12. What does it mean to be an example in each of these areas? Take time to look at them individually and then together as a group. How and where does repentance come into play?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 11:1. What do you think that Paul meant by his invitation? Take an honest look at the example that you are setting: Would you be confident enough to ask someone to follow you as you follow Jesus?
4. On Sunday Pastor Joe challenged us to be a "looking glass" that takes the focus off of ourselves and puts it on Jesus. How can that happen in our lives?

Application:

1. Who is someone either older or younger than you that you can encourage this week?

Prayer:

1. Pray that the Holy Spirit would empower us to live lives as examples of what it means to be a follower of Jesus.

2. Pray for opportunities to encourage others (either older or younger than yourself) and build relationship with them.

3. Other Requests

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