

**“Younger Men on Mission”**

*Sermon Notes*

➤ **The future of the church is bound up with the future of younger men, for these brothers will soon be our church’s fathers**

1 Timothy 5:1-2

\*So...

1. \_\_\_\_\_ to younger men (v.6a; Proverbs 20:29 Psalm 119:9; Ecclesiastes 11:9-10; Acts 7:58; 8:1; 9:1- 19; 1 Timothy 4:12; 1 John 2:13-14)

2. \_\_\_\_\_ with younger men (v.6b; Proverbs 1:1, 8, 10, 15; 2:1; 3:1, 11-12, 21; 4:1, 3, 10, 20; 5:1, 5:7, 20; 6:1, 3, 20; 7:1, 24; 8:32; 10:1; 13:1, 24; 15:10; 17:25; 19:13, 18, 26-27; 23:15, 19, 24; 23:26; 24:13, 21; 25:20; 27:11; 28:7; 29:17; 30:1, 4; 31:2)

3. \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of younger men (v.6c; Proverbs 1-9)

## **MEFC Community Group Study Guide**

For the Week of May 3rd-9th

### **Getting Started**

1. Think of some of the most mature, godly older men with whom you're acquainted (whether in person or simply from a distance). What do you know about their formation in their younger years? Do you see any themes that connect them? If so, please share with the group.

### **Digging Deeper**

2. Young men are literally referenced hundreds of times in Holy Scripture. From Old Testament to New, there is no doubt that this demographic receives a unique amount of attention in the Bible. Why? Take a look at some of the scriptural cross-references in this week's sermon outline for evidence. Would you say that your personal burden for the importance, growth, and development of younger men among God's people matches the biblical data? Explain.

### **Open Your Bible to Titus 2:6...**

3. While Paul has relatively detailed instructions for Titus regarding the mentoring of older men, older women, and younger women, when he comes to younger men, it's just one exhortation (2:6). Moreover, it's one he's already issued to each demographic already listed in the passage (2:2, 5). Why?

4. Though the character quality in view (v.6) is "self-control", it's clear that this same word is translated a bit differently in the rest of the New Testament (Mark 5:15; Romans 12:3; 2 Corinthians 5:13; 1 Peter 4:7). Can you spot it in each verse? Based on its usage in these other passages, what might be a better translation? How does this impact how we understand and apply the exhortation in Titus 2:6?

5. Do you have any favorite passages from the first nine chapters of Proverbs (for example: 3:5-6, 27-29; 4:5, 18, 23; 6:16-19; 9:1-18 or others)? How is the meaning and application of these verses impacted by the fact that they were each written to a young man in their original context?

6. Luke notes that when we first meet Saul of Tarsus in the book of Acts that he is a "young man" (Acts 7:58; 8:1). At this point in the narrative, Saul is a terrorist participating in the martyrdom of Christians in the early church. In chapter 9, quite literally everything changes for him. Read the account of Saul's conversion (Acts 9:1-19). Are there any young men in your life that you have difficulty believing could ever become sincere followers of the Lord Jesus? What specifics in this story give you hope? What practical steps of faith might you take toward them in the coming days?

7. How do you think we are doing as a local church as it relates to including and disciplining younger men in the midst of our mission to be and make disciples of Jesus? What signs of encouragement do you see? What concerns do you have? In what concrete ways might we be even stronger in this area?

8. As you close your group time in prayer, be sure to pray by name for the younger men in our local church (in biblical vocabulary - we're thinking of men from roughly 15-50 years of age). Consider praying through Titus 2:6 as well as the other references in this week's sermon outline to add some clarity and specificity to your prayers.