



# WEEKLY CELL GUIDE

26 SEP 2021 | MY PART IN THE GENERATIONS | VARIOUS PASSAGES

Series : Reset the Table | Speaker : Pastor Dinah Lee



## WELCOME

[15 MINS]

You may want to look up the following websites for icebreakers suitable for your cell.

[Ice Breakers 1](#)

[Ice Breakers 2](#)



## WORSHIP

[15 MINS]

You may select songs like

1. Spirit Touch Your Church
2. One Voice



## WORD

[45 MINS]

### SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

1. Reach out to sisters/brothers-in-Christ from other generations to cultivate intergenerational relationships.
2. Understand that it is God's intent for generations to be interdependent for disciple-making.

### SERMON SUMMARY

Cultivating inter-generational relationships is aligning with God's intent. God sees the generations as a whole ([Psa 33:11](#), [Gen 17:7](#), [Exo 3:15](#)) and intended disciple-making to be intergenerational ([Psa 71:18](#), [2 Tim 1:5](#)). Pastor Dinah highlighted the various generations within the church and their distinctiveness:

- Traditionalists (1925-1945)

- Boomers (1946-1964)
- Gen X (1965-1980)
- Gen Y or Millennials (1981-2000)
- Gen Z or Nexters (after 2000)

Despite each generation’s distinctiveness, we must build bridges across the generations. The younger ones should have a posture of honour ([Lev 19:32](#)) and to reach out and receive from the older generations ([Tit 2:1-8](#)). The older ones should have a posture of humility ([Mal 4:6](#)), to remain rooted in Christ, to impart godly values to the young and to pray unceasingly for the emerging generations.

*Shaping the next generation through disciple-making remains by far the most powerful strategy Christ has given His church to establish His Kingdom in the world.*

## SERMON RECAP

In this era of individualism, we are increasingly fragmented. The separation of cell groups and church services according to age groups have created a silo mindset. We are only concerned with people around our own age or stage of life.

### 1. God’s Heart for the Generations

- God sees the generations as a whole ([Psalm 33:11, Genesis 17:7, Exodus 3:15](#)).
- God takes a long view that is contrary to how the world naturally thinks. The world thinks about the here and now, and the immediate future, while God looks at all eternity.
- God intends for the generations to be interdependent for disciple-making ([Psalm 71:18, 2 Timothy 1:5](#)).
- Growing in an intergenerational community will teach us humility and how to love proactively.

### 2. Inherent Distinctiveness of the Generations

- Each generation becomes distinct from one another as time changes and as the world progresses. This causes generational gaps and clashes when we do not understand or agree to something that is different from what we know or grow up with.

GENERATIONAL DISTINCTIONS				
Traditionalists (1925-1945)	Boomers (1946-1964)	Gen X (1965-1980)	Gen Y or Millennials (1981-2000)	Gen Z or Nexters (after 2000)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hardworking</li> <li>• Loyal</li> <li>• Cautious</li> <li>• Conformers</li> <li>• Respects authority</li> <li>• Values discipline</li> <li>• Values traditions</li> <li>• Values face-to-face interaction</li> <li>• Not tech savvy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committed</li> <li>• Dedicated</li> <li>• Loyal</li> <li>• Good mentors</li> <li>• Values relationship (as they did not grow up with technology)</li> <li>• Prefers structure and discipline</li> <li>• Less inclined to welcome change</li> <li>• Technology is a means of productivity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Independent / Self-reliant</li> <li>• Flexible</li> <li>• Resourceful</li> <li>• Direct</li> <li>• Goal or results-oriented</li> <li>• Adaptable and resilient</li> <li>• Values family time and work-life balance</li> <li>• Values freedom</li> <li>• Tech savvy but less dependent on technology than Gen Y</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Independent</li> <li>• Innovative</li> <li>• Creative</li> <li>• Confident</li> <li>• Strong sense of entitlement</li> <li>• Grew up in the world of information technology, hence heavily reliant on it</li> <li>• Wants and expects to be heard</li> <li>• Accepting of diverse cultures</li> <li>• Technology is a means of connectivity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Independent</li> <li>• Ambitious</li> <li>• Entrepreneurial</li> <li>• Open-minded</li> <li>• Multi-taskers</li> <li>• Values authenticity</li> <li>• Welcomes change</li> <li>• Processes information rapidly</li> <li>• Wants to be heard</li> <li>• Digital is in their DNA, hence the most tech savvy and most reliant on it</li> </ul>

### 3. Our Heart Posture Towards the Generations

- What attitudes should the young adopt towards the older generation?
  - Honour ([Leviticus 19:32](#)) – show honour to the older ones who are rich with godly wisdom. Seek and learn from them. For those without a good older role model, ask God to give you the grace to still show honour to them.
  - Reach Out and Receive ([Titus 2:1-8](#)) – people of all generations will have stories to share and learn from. Seeking to learn from those who have travelled further in life’s journey is greatly beneficial. You gain invaluable insights and wisdom.

- What attitudes should the older generation have towards the young?
  - *Humility* ([Malachi 4:6](#)) – Be willing to learn from the younger generation in areas that you have no knowledge of. Allow them to help and guide you.
  - *Remain Rooted in Christ* ([1 Corinthians 11:1](#)) – A ‘been there done that’ attitude is dangerous. A true spiritual father and mother bears godly fruit as you remain in Christ. When you remain rooted in Christ, only then can you model godliness; only then you can have a reservoir of godly wisdom; only then can you impart wisdom and be an example to the younger generations.
  - Reflect the unconditional love of God and pray unceasingly for the emerging generations.

#### 4. How Might Intergenerational Disciple-Making Look Like Practically?

- When the younger ones feel safe to share dreams and opinions, and communicate their ideas and feedback to the older ones.
- When the older ones come alongside to help the younger generation grow (Elijah > Elisha, Paul > Timothy).
- When the young have more than one spiritual parent.
- *“One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.” – Psalm 145:4*

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#### 1. Disciple-making is Jesus’ Great Commission to us. How can you:

- Best employ your experience and godly wisdom for the benefit of the younger generations?
- Adapt a posture that “reaches out and receive” from the older generations? [\[10 Mins\]](#)

#### Leader’s Notes

*Part A:* All of us have life experiences that we can share with those who are younger than us to encourage them, e.g., difficulties encountered and resolved, answered and unanswered prayers, life lessons learnt, deliverance from trials, etc. All our life experiences are rich with lessons and godly wisdom to impart to and benefit the younger generation.

*Part B:* (Note: This part might not be applicable for the older generation.) The older generations have godly wisdom and valuable experiences that will benefit the younger generation. For example, elderly parents can provide godly wisdom and direction for those going through marriage or mid-life challenges. Therefore, it is critical for the younger generation to adopt a posture of honour to receive from the older generation. This can include not dismissing their sharing of life experiences, approaching them for advice or guidance, and taking their counsel to heart, etc.

#### Transition

We may think that the older generation has nothing to benefit from the younger, ‘modern’ generation, or that the younger generation is not willing to be guided by the older ‘outdated’ generation. However, God has placed us in the different generations so that we can lean on one another to spur one another on towards Christlikeness. Therefore, it is critical that we have a right posture towards the different generations.

#### 2. Share the traits that you value in generations that are different from yours (refer to the “Generational Distinctions” chart in the Sermon Recap). Pick one or two traits that you want to develop in yourself. [\[10 Mins\]](#)

#### Leader’s Notes

Seeing and acknowledging the strengths in other generations help us to appreciate the other generations more. After all, each generation will be different from the other as the world progresses in living standards and lifestyles change. It is unrealistic to ‘demand’ the younger ones to follow in the exact footsteps of the older generation, or to ‘expect’ the older ones to automatically understand what the younger generation does and says today. There are strengths (and weaknesses) in each generation that we can appreciate and learn from.

When we have identified the trait or traits that we want to adopt and develop, think about who you can approach to help you in your journey. Then pray and seek God for Him to guide you in the right direction.

### Transition

When we humble ourselves and seek to learn from one another, we are opening ourselves up to new friendships and experiences. We will be more patient and accepting and this could be a start to building a beautiful intergenerational relationship.

### **3. Identify a hindrance in your life that prevents you from building bridges across the generations. How can you work on it so that it will not hold you back anymore? [15 Mins]**

#### Leader's Notes

Pastor Dinah provided some points on how to build bridges across the generations.

For the younger generation:

- Honour
- Reach out and receive
- Invite the older generation to share their lives with you

For the older generation:

- Humility
- Remain rooted in Christ
- Essential to impart godly values to the young
- Pray unceasingly for the emerging generations

Identify from these pointers, or possibly other reasons, that may be stopping you from building bridges across the generations.

Here is an article on the costs of disciple-making: [Seven Costs of Disciple-Making | Desiring God](#)

The root of the issue in building bridges could be pride or selfishness with our resources (e.g., it takes time and effort to build a relationship). However, if we understand how important this is to God, we will make the sacrifice to align with His intent and cultivate intergenerational relationships. Starting out would be difficult, but as you begin building bridges, God will slowly transform your heart to love the other generations and God can use these bridges to strengthen and restore the generations, as well as expand His Kingdom on earth.

#### Closing

It is God's intent that we build bridges across generations as it is part of the Great Commission ([Matthew 28:16-20](#)). Disciple-making can only begin when there is a relationship between the older and younger generations – just like Paul and Timothy, or Elijah and Elisha. Therefore, let's start working on the obstacles and don't let anything stop us from cultivating an intergenerational relationship for God's glory.



Consider dividing the group into micro-groups for a deeper time of sharing as well as praying for the following items:

#### **1. Sermon Application**

- God will remove all prejudices, stereotypes, and misconceptions about the different generations.
- God gives you a strong desire and courage to cultivate relationships with the generation before and after you.

## 2. COVID-19 in Singapore

- God's intervention as we experience a sharp increase in the number of community cases and revert to stricter social measures in society.
- God's hand to alleviate the sufferings, and for practical help to arise and be rendered to these suffering communities.

## 3. COVID-19 in the World

- A swift end to the COVID-19 crisis globally, especially in India and the rest of South Asia.
  - Healing and comfort for those who are sick and suffering.
  - Protection and guidance for healthcare professionals at the frontline, giving them wisdom, courage, and strength to confront this crisis.
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

[5 MINS]

1. **Bible Reading Plan.** You can access our 2-Year Bible Reading Plan 2021-2022 by visiting <https://rlc.sg/brp2021>.
2. **Upcoming Sermon Series** – Jesus is coming back. 3 Oct – 31 Oct. In this series, we will focus on Jesus' prophecy on the Mount of Olives (Matthew 24 & 25), which sheds light on the things to come. 3 Oct -The Beginning of Birth Pangs, 10 Oct - The Worst of Times, 17 Oct - The Best Ending Ever, 24 Oct - Make the Most of Every Moment, 31 Oct - The Final Separation.
3. **Missions from Home.** What does Missions look like when we're unable to travel? We believe God is calling RiverLifers to sow continually and faithfully into the nations by partnering Him and adapting in the way we approach Missions. We have 104 RiverLifers who have signed up for 9 MFH teams, reaching out to India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines, and Thailand. Over the next few months, they will be collaborating with our Missions Partners to develop missions projects that provide prayer support, resources and raise awareness for their ministries. We encourage all to get involved by praying, giving, or serving. Find out more about the different countries we're working with: <rlc.sg/mfh>. Join a MFH team: <rlc.sg/mfh-serve>
4. **Prayer Ministry.** If you require prayer ministry for any issues you face (eg. unforgiveness, demonic oppression, etc), you can sign up for RLC's RTF ministry: <https://bit.ly/rlcrtf>
5. **The Behold Devotional.** As part of our anniversary celebrations, we have produced a devotional in conjunction with our recently released RiverLife album, Behold. This devotional contains stories, poems and photographs written and taken by RiverLifers from different congregations and walks of life. We hope that this devotional will inspire you to greater intimacy with Him. The devotional is available for collection over the next few weeks at our in-person services. If you'd like to have a copy of this devotional, simply join us at our in-person services.
6. **Water Baptism Class.** The in-person class will be held on 9 Oct at Faith Chapel from 9AM - 3.30PM. Do note that Class capacity is limited to 15 registered participants; and a waiting list will be opened for those who register after class capacity has been reached. You may register for the class at <rlc.sg/baptism-class>. Registration closes on Sun, 2 Oct. For enquiries, please contact Karen Koh at [karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg](mailto:karenkoh@riverlife.org.sg).
7. **Equipping Sessions with Peter Tsukahira | Thu, 8pm** (Online Only)  
7 Oct - The Rapture?, 14 Oct - The Antichrist, 21 Oct - The Millennium, 28 Oct - Eternal Bliss?

## ONLINE GIVING TO RIVERLIFE CHURCH

Contribute your tithes and offering digitally:

**1. PayNow**

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**2. Interbank Transfer**

RiverLife Church Bank Account: *DBS Autosave 029-902431-0*

Bank Code: 7171 / Branch Code: 029



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