

# UNLEASHING A GENERATION



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Key verses: 1 Timothy 4:12-16

*<sup>12</sup>Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.*

*<sup>13</sup>Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.*

*<sup>14</sup>Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.*

*<sup>15</sup>Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. <sup>16</sup>Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.*

## Introduction

Timothy, about 29-30 years old. He's got to go and command and teach these things and use his gifts that he received by the laying on of hands when he was about 19 years old. Paul chose this young man to be his travelling companion. Been given instructions for the church at Ephesus.

## Paul's instructions to Timothy

How does he do this as a young man in an older church?

He must be an example in his:

- Speech
- General behaviour
- Love
- Faith
- Purity

He must demonstrate his faith.

How must he overcome this cult in Ephesus?

By Scriptural exhortation and teaching.

Public reading, exhortation and teaching from the Word

He must also be committed to improving his skills as a Christian worker. His progress should be visible to everyone.

His ministry is not a hobby but should be the consuming interest of his life.

Give attention until I come to these things. Let them see the maturity come and they will hear you.

If he concentrates on:

- Being an example
- Exposition of the word
- Using his gift

He will grow in his ministry and his growth will be visible to everyone.

When we consider the work of the cross, it is the same redeeming work and power in all of us, regardless of our age.

Acts 2. Peter speaks to the crowd... appealed to everyone in the family... Respond: what must I do? Repent. It's the same Spirit.

Jesus said Follow me and I will make you fishers of men. Disciples who make disciples who make disciples... **It's for** all of us! Think of in your school.

We integrate as a family. Every member does its share for the growth of the body. Ephesians 4

Despise not your youth.

David: 1 Samuel 8, 9 & 17

The people wanted a king!

Saul was a choice and handsome man, taller than all the rest, head and shoulders above them. Man looked to him, but he had issues and God rejected him.

God provides his own king.

He went to Jesse, who brought his seven sons before him, but none of them were chosen.

David was a kid in the field. God says anoint him. It was the heart! His reality was a shepherd -> status was a future king

Do not look at his appearance or physical stature... the Lord looks at the heart

1 Samuel 17

Battle scene. Brute of a man. Goliath.

Oldest 3 sons of Jesse who were older than 20, were there. Their hearts were afraid. David must have been about 13.

He had a task - to take them supplies.

Young person, do you have a task? What is the task?

Obedient young man. Left sheep with a keeper. Brought the supplies. Responsibility. Hears the challenge from giant which starts him on his destiny. It kicked him into gear.

Why is Saul not fighting the battle?

David said, is there not a cause?

Yes, let's find out what it is.

(Where are the middle 4 sons? Missing generation)

Saul said, you are not able to go against him because you're a youth. He is a man of war from his youth. But David was not afraid. He told him how he would do it.

**Saul's armour:** If you've not tested it, don't walk with it. What worked for the older generation may not work for the young generation. The Kingdom mandate is the same.

Don't be intimidated by what the world brings. Goliath is coming in what man knows. David is coming in the power of the Spirit.

Psalm 51:11-12 ... *don't send me out of your presence, don't take your Spirit from me*

**David's actions impacted the Philistine army and the nation of Israel.** It started with Goliath, but didn't end there. (He killed his 10 000s)

**You've got to start!**

(Boy came in. Men were not doing there jobs. Did the job for them. David shadows back to Timothy.)

CCA application:

Fully integrated family.

Do the young generation sit and watch our lives until they come of age? Eventually hand the baton over to them. No.

How should it work?

We walk together. We place into you the experience we've **garnered** over the years. You have the energy. As they start functioning we integrate as a team then we work as a functioning family. Together we impact society. Work and blend together. Unit that becomes effective in society.

We all need to get moving but we need to integrate and work together.

To the young: Spread your wings and fly. We validate you.