



Student Takeover

Discussion Guide

Jesus understood the importance of the next generation. He traveled with a group of young men, possibly teenagers, for three years; teaching them, guiding them, encouraging them, and investing in them. Since Jesus is our example in life, shouldn't we be doing similar things with our time?

Jump Start

1. Share a time when you treated someone with honor. What was their response? How did it make you feel?
2. **Read [Romans 12:10](#)**. Think about your generation. Think about the generation that came right before you (i.e., parents or grandparents). In your opinion, in what ways are these two held together? How can your generation connect to our children and students, the next generation of leaders?
3. **Read [Matthew 16:13-19](#)**. Jesus and Peter had a deep relationship. We see their mutual love and respect in this Scripture passage. Peter, whose name literally means "pebble," was just inspired by Jesus with a prophecy that he would become "The Rock." Jesus didn't tell Peter who he was in that moment; rather, He told Peter who he could be. This is an example of great encouragement. Can you share a time when someone encouraged you? How about a time when you were an encourager to someone else? Today, are you using a four-to-one ratio of encouragement / criticism?
4. **Read [Proverbs 18:12](#)**. Earnestly listening to someone is a skill and an act of love. It takes practice to listen well. Instead of just listening, we are often processing our own thoughts in response to what is being conveyed to us. Do you struggle with listening? When you want to be heard, but are ignored or spoken over, how does it make you feel? How can you encourage, show love, and honor others by actively listening to them?

5. Final Thought: **Read [Hebrews 10:24-25](#)**. What is the easiest thing to give to others, but which you will never get back? Your time. If you want to honor others, the greatest gift you can give them is your time. In what way(s) can you open up your busy life and your schedule to give your time to others?

Pray and consider serving with our Cove Students on Wednesday nights and/or Vertical Element. Get involved today by visiting www.covechurch.org/students

Deeper

6. Jesus was the greatest encourager of all time! Yet, let's not forget that He also rebuked several of the disciples and religious leaders. Because Jesus was completely open to God's prompting, we can trust that the rebukes were warranted. What or whom do you listen to when you feel like rebuking others? Are they Godly challenges and correction? Or are they just "because I say so" rebukes? Remember that encouragement translates across all generations. What can you do to be honorable and helpful in this great task of "speaking the truth in love" for someone else's benefit?

Read: [Matthew 16:23-25](#); [Mark 16:14-20](#); [Luke 10:38-42](#); [Ephesians 4:11-16](#)