

# CONVERSATION GUIDE

## Middle-High School

DATE: 6/21/20

SCRIPTURE: 1 Timothy 5:17-25

LESSON: Godly Elders and Spiritual Authority

### INTRO

*This conversation guide exists to help parents interact with their middle and high school students. Our goal in having middle and high school students attend gatherings (or worship at home) with their parents is to help them transition toward being adults who are fully functioning members of the church. But most middle and high school students still need some translation and help connecting what they're learning to their lives. We want our sermons to be accessible, but they aren't specifically targeted toward the transitional teenage years.*

- What stood out to you from the sermon? Did you have any questions or was anything confusing to you?
- **Read 1 Timothy 5:17.** How does the world view authority? Does our culture tend to trust or distrust authority? Why do you think that is?
  - Who are people who are in authority over you? (Parents, teachers, coaches, police, pastors, politicians) How do you generally feel about authority?
  - Do you tend to like authority (maybe because it helps you feel safe) or do you more so tend to dislike it (maybe because it makes you feel controlled)?
- **Read 1 Timothy 5:19-20.** What guardrails do these verses set up to both protect the church from unhealthy pastors and also protect the pastors from unhealthy church members?
  - Think about times when you have heard gossip or slander about people in authority? (i.e. teachers) How do you react when you hear things like that?
- **Read 1 Timothy 5:17 and Hebrews 13:17-18.** What are some practical ways that scripture calls us to honor pastors?