



CRAIG GROESCHEL

*Founder and Senior Pastor,
LifeChurch.tv
Edmond, Oklahoma*

- Founder of a pioneer in multi-campus church, LifeChurch.tv, which holds 76 weekly worship experiences, ministering to more than 40,000 people
- Known for leveraging technology to reach a new generation, including the development of the popular YouVersion Bible App
- A creative and relevant Bible teacher, deeply passionate about leading people to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ

THE STRONGEST LINK

40 minutes

I. Advice to the Older Generation

- A. Don't resent, fear or judge the next generation.
- B. God values maturity; if you're not dead, you're not done.
- C. Your best days are before you as you take the maturity that God has given you and invest it in those behind you.
- D. Don't just delegate tasks; that creates followers. Delegate authority; that creates leaders.
- E. Authenticity trumps cool every time.
- F. You can be a spiritual father or mother to those who come behind you.

II. Advice to the Younger Generation

- A. You need those who have gone before you.
- B. Executives were asked which word they would use to describe twenty-somethings in the workforce, and they said "entitled."

- C. Because you feel entitled, you typically overestimate what you can do in the short run but yet you grossly underestimate what you can do through a lifetime of faithfulness.
- D. Showing honor publicly results in influence privately.
- E. In Mark 6:4, Jesus said only in his hometown is a prophet without honor.
- F. Honor builds up; dishonor tears down. Honor believes the best; dishonor believes the worst. Honor values others; dishonor devalues them.
- G. Because of a lack of honor and love, we are limiting what could happen through generations working together.
- H. Respect is earned, but honor should be given.

III. Creating Opportunities for the Generations to Work Together

- A. Create ongoing feedback loops between those who are older and those who are younger.
- B. Create specific mentoring moments.
- C. Create opportunities for significant leadership development.

PROCESS QUESTIONS

45 minutes

- We have provided the following questions for you to use as discussion starters with your team. (If you're working through this tool on your own, you can use them for reflection and journaling.) Our hope is these questions serve God's purposes in growing you and your team.
- Suggested discussion times are indicated, but feel free to spend the time however you feel led, being sensitive to God's promptings and focusing in on what you think is most important for you and your team to glean from the message.
- If your team has more than eight people, we suggest dividing into groups of four to seven people so everyone has an opportunity to participate.



1. Share your initial reactions and thoughts about the content of Craig's message.



2. Craig encouraged older leaders not to delegate tasks, which creates followers, but to delegate authority, which creates leaders.

- a. How have you tended to delegate in the past? Make a mark on the continuum below.

*I/we tend to delegate tasks—
specifying both the goal and
the means to achieve it.*

*I/we tend to delegate
authority—defining the
goal but not the means.*



- b. Are you where you want to be on the continuum? If so, great! If not, what is a first step you can take to move toward delegating more authority?

CRAIG GROESCHEL: THE STRONGEST LINK



3. Craig emphasized to younger leaders the importance of showing honor to those above you.

a. On your own, reflect on how well you show honor to those in authority over you. Are you confident that they feel honored by you, or might they sense a lack of honor from you? If you'd like, write your thoughts below.

b. How might Craig's message affect your relationship with those in authority over you in the future?

c. If you feel comfortable, share your thoughts with your team.



4. Craig ended his message with three suggestions for creating opportunities for the generations to work together:

- ☐ Create ongoing feedback loops between those who are older and those who are younger.
- ☐ Create specific mentoring moments.
- ☐ Create opportunities for significant leadership development.

Is your team doing any of these three already? If not, are there any you'd like to implement? Decide on next steps together.