



# TODAY'S INTERACTIVE OUTLINE

## Struggles With The Church

### *How Christians Can Drive Young People Away*

October 22, 2017

#### THINKING THROUGH TODAY'S LESSON

##### Young People:

- Are you being too critical of older Christians?
- Are you aiming for the highest standard possible?
- Are you using other Christians as an excuse to not do what is right?

##### Older People:

- What kind of example am I being to the young people in the congregation?
- Have I said or done things that may have been a stumbling block to young people?
- Am I reaching out to younger Christians to be a teacher/mentor outside of services?

---

#### MY NOTES:

We have discussed many challenges that young people face in this series. So far, the main emphasis has been the challenges that our young people face out in the world. But what about the challenges that young people face among God's people? Are there ways we can drive young people away?

#### I. We can drive young people away by being \_\_\_\_\_ in our faith and by being \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. Damage caused by hypocrisy can be immeasurable (see Gal 2:11-13).
- B. If young people look up to you or me, then there is a danger that we can lead them to either:
  1. Commit the sin that we are committing
  2. To go to a denominational church because they don't want to be a Christian like us.
- C. Our being focused on "the \_\_\_\_\_" and not being genuine Christians can lead those who follow our example to do the same and not grow to have a zealous faith of their own.

#### II. We can drive young people away by being \_\_\_\_\_ and Legalistic.

- A. Sometimes older Christians talk a lot about all of the sins that young people commit that are not called sins in scripture, but are merely their \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Examples:
  1. "Listening to this type of music is a sin."
  2. All types of dancing and going to all school events is a sin."
- C. Consider Romans 14
- D. Sometimes when older Christians show an unwillingness to \_\_\_\_\_ to younger people's ideas or are constantly rejecting their ideas because of their zeal and love for "how things have always been done," younger disciples decide to go somewhere where their ideas are valued or at least listened to.

#### III. We can drive young people away by teaching them a \_\_\_\_\_ to live by.

- A. Younger Christians are held to the same high standard as older Christians
- B. Consider Romans 12

#### Conclusion:

- A. see Mark 9:42
- B. Consider the questions in the 'THINKING THROUGH TODAY'S LESSON' section.
  1. Older people: Are there changes you or I need to make to be an encouragement to our younger family members in Christ?
  2. Young people: Is your faith more based on what you see in others or based on what you see in the word of God? Just because others may not be living "New Testament Christianity" does not mean that Jesus is wrong or that Christianity is wrong.