

God demands and blesses common love between generations.

### Intergenerational

We believe a healthy church seeks to be a community that values all generations by all generations. Therefore we intentionally place the generations toward each other and model expressions of worship and ministry that values one generation to the dimensions of the others.



God is already blessing us in great ways

### The Bible on intergenerational blessing

Deuteronomy 5:1-22, Psalm 127:1-5, Proverbs 13:20



How a church is intergenerational  
is not an accident. It is a choice.

Meaningful intergenerational ministry is intentional.

Age difference must not overcome love.

# Practical paths to intergenerational blessing

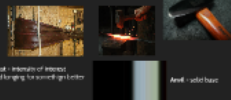
Deuteronomy 5:1-22, Psalm 127:1-5, Proverbs 13:20

Avoid your generation's specific attitude pitfalls

Deuteronomy 5:1-22, Psalm 127:1-5, Proverbs 13:20

This diversity matters a lot - maybe the most

Remember - a healthy church is intentional.



Remember - a healthy church is intentional.

Avoid - a healthy church is intentional.

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Do not miss this opportunity



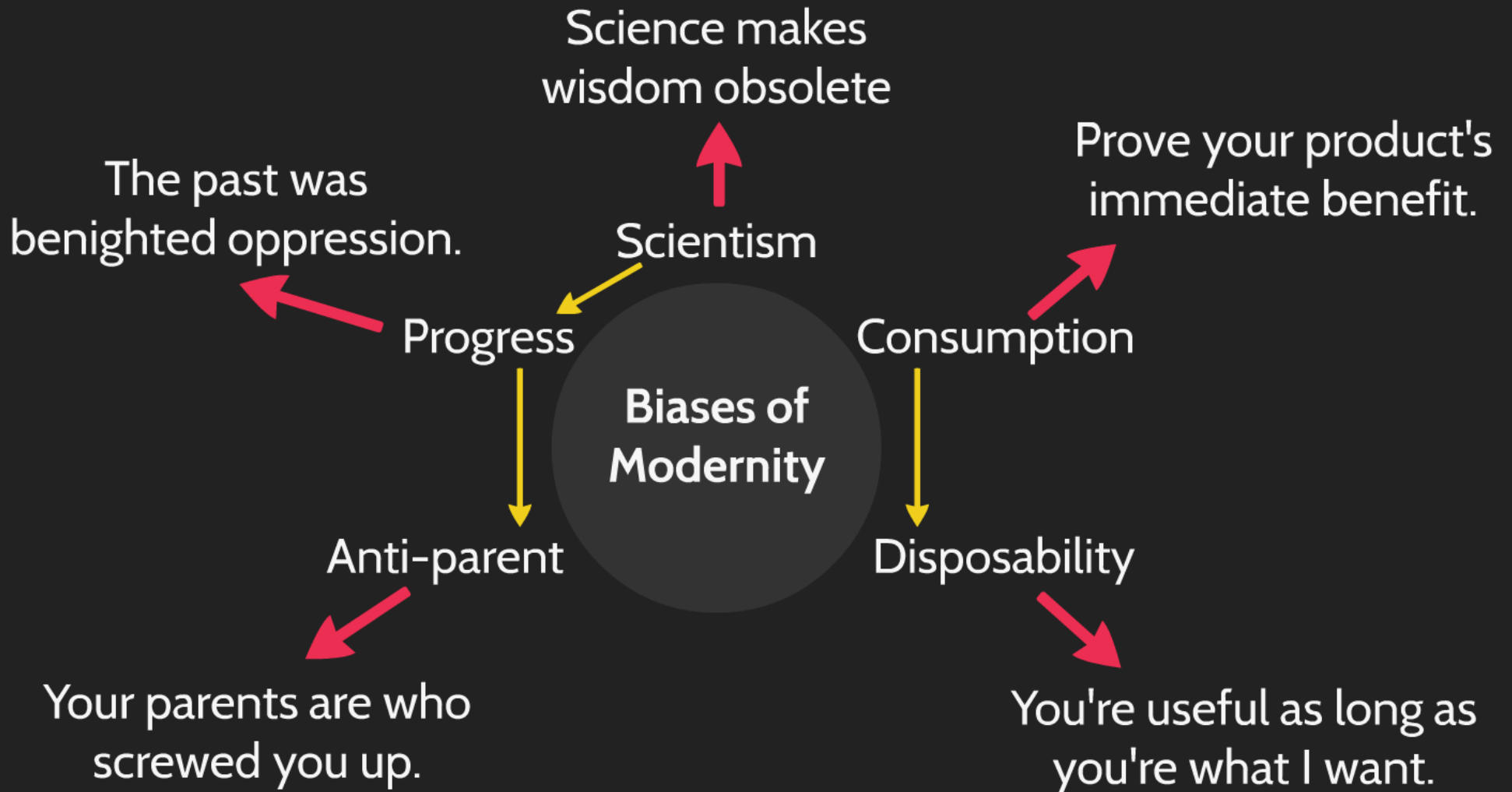
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# *The* **FORGOTTEN BLESSING**

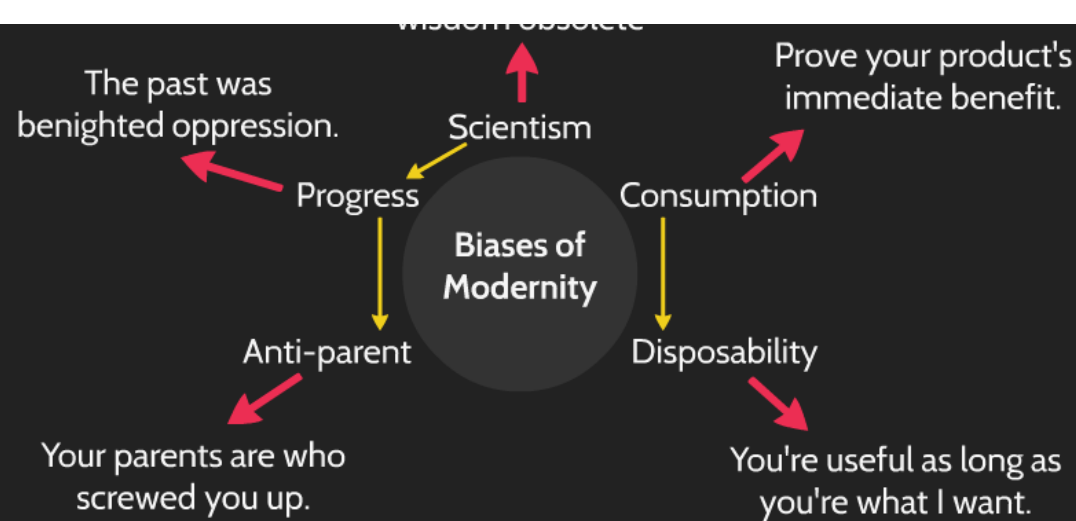
— THE IMPACT OF THE AGED —  
ON THE INTERGENERATIONAL CHURCH

## Psalm 92:12-15

The righteous will flourish like a palm tree, they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon; 13 planted in the house of the LORD, they will flourish in the courts of our God. 14 They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, 15 proclaiming, "The LORD is upright; he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him."







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# First things first: Parents and Children

Exodus 20:12-15

"Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you. 13 "You shall not murder.

14 "You shall not commit adultery.

15 "You shall not steal.

1 Timothy 5:1-2

"Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, 2 older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity."

(what would Paul have said if this was written to an older person?)



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**The word “elder” instead of “pastor” is no accident.**

**1 Timothy 3:2**

“Above reproach...temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, gentle, not quarrelsome, good reputation...”

# The Biblical attitude is universal

**Leviticus 19:32** - Rise in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God. I am the LORD.

**Proverbs 16:31** - Gray hair is a crown of splendor; it is attained by a righteous life.

**Proverbs 20:29** - The glory of young men is their strength, gray hair the splendor of the old.

# Foolishness of Rehoboam

(whose father was the wisest king of Israel - Solomon)

## 1 Kings 12:8-13

But Rehoboam rejected the advice the elders gave him and consulted the young men who had grown up with him and were serving him...The king answered the people harshly. Rejecting the advice given him by the elders...”



# The last verse of the Old Testament

## Malachi 4:5-6

"See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. 6 He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse."

# A sign of spiritual renewal:

## Acts 2:17-18

'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. 18 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

**God is already blessing us in great ways**



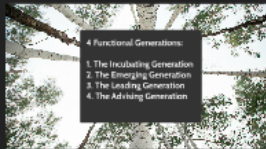




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Mature adulthood is intergenerational  
(you don't meet a group for your culture to thrive)

[Intergenerational can work: Intergenerational.com/articles](#)

Mentoring (discipling intergenerationally) is  
incredibly enriching

Be a mentor, find a mentor, point out a mentor, grow  
so you can become a mentor, bless a mentor

Age deference must not overcome merit

God will make  
up greatness in  
youth

1 Timothy 4:9-12

Age does not make  
godliness alone

Titus 2:3-5

# Practical paths to intergenerational blessing

1. Avoid your generation's specific attitude pitfalls  
2. Submitting to older people isn't humiliation  
3. Humility toward older people isn't humiliation  
4. Do not miss this opportunity

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Heat - intensity of interest  
and longing for something better



Hammer - skillful stroke



Anvil - solid base

Submitting to older people isn't humiliation  
Humility toward older people isn't humiliation



(older people...)

Do not miss this opportunity



## **4 Functional Generations:**

- 1. The Incubating Generation**
- 2. The Emerging Generation**
- 3. The Leading Generation**
- 4. The Advising Generation**

Mature adulthood is intergenerational

(you don't need a group for *your* cohort to thrive)

Intentionally join some intergenerational communities

Mentoring (discipling intergenerationally) is incredibly enriching.

Be a mentor, find a mentor, point out a mentor, grow so you can become a mentor, bless a mentor



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"I believe what really happens in history is this: the old man is always wrong; and the young people are always wrong about what is wrong with him. The practical form it takes is this: that, while the old man may stand by some stupid custom, the young man always attacks it with some theory that turns out to be equally stupid."

- G.K. Chesterton

# Avoid your generation's specific attitude pitfalls

## Attitude Pitfalls:

**Incubating generation** - Make differentiation a war. Going moderate (and very dangerous) today to peers.

**Emerging Adults** - Settling in a transitional life stage. If you seek to move on, it will drive you to seek a mentor and maturity.

**Leading Generations** - Feeling like you don't have margin; you aren't doing it right, and you're in no hurry to help these "kids" replace you.

**Adulting** - Feeling rejected by replacements tooting down your work, and withdrawing from the community to commiserate with yourselves.

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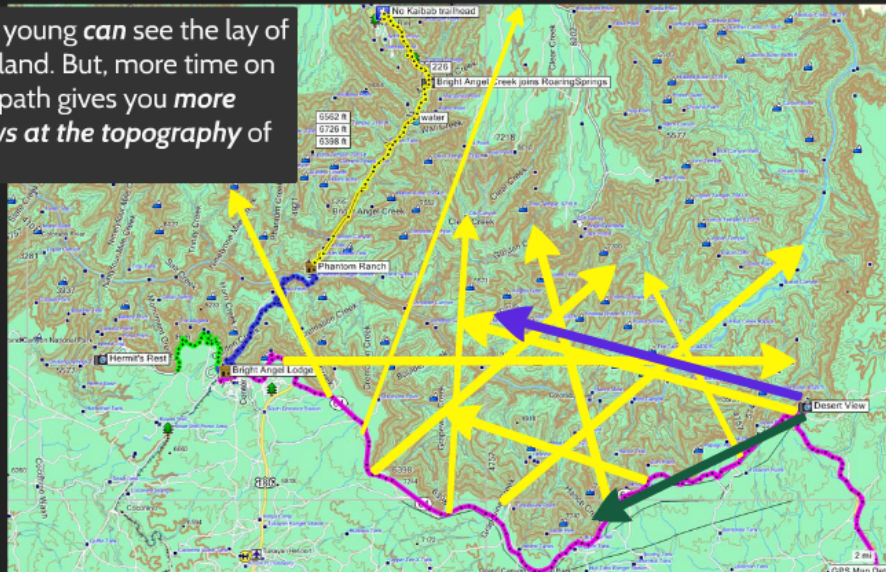
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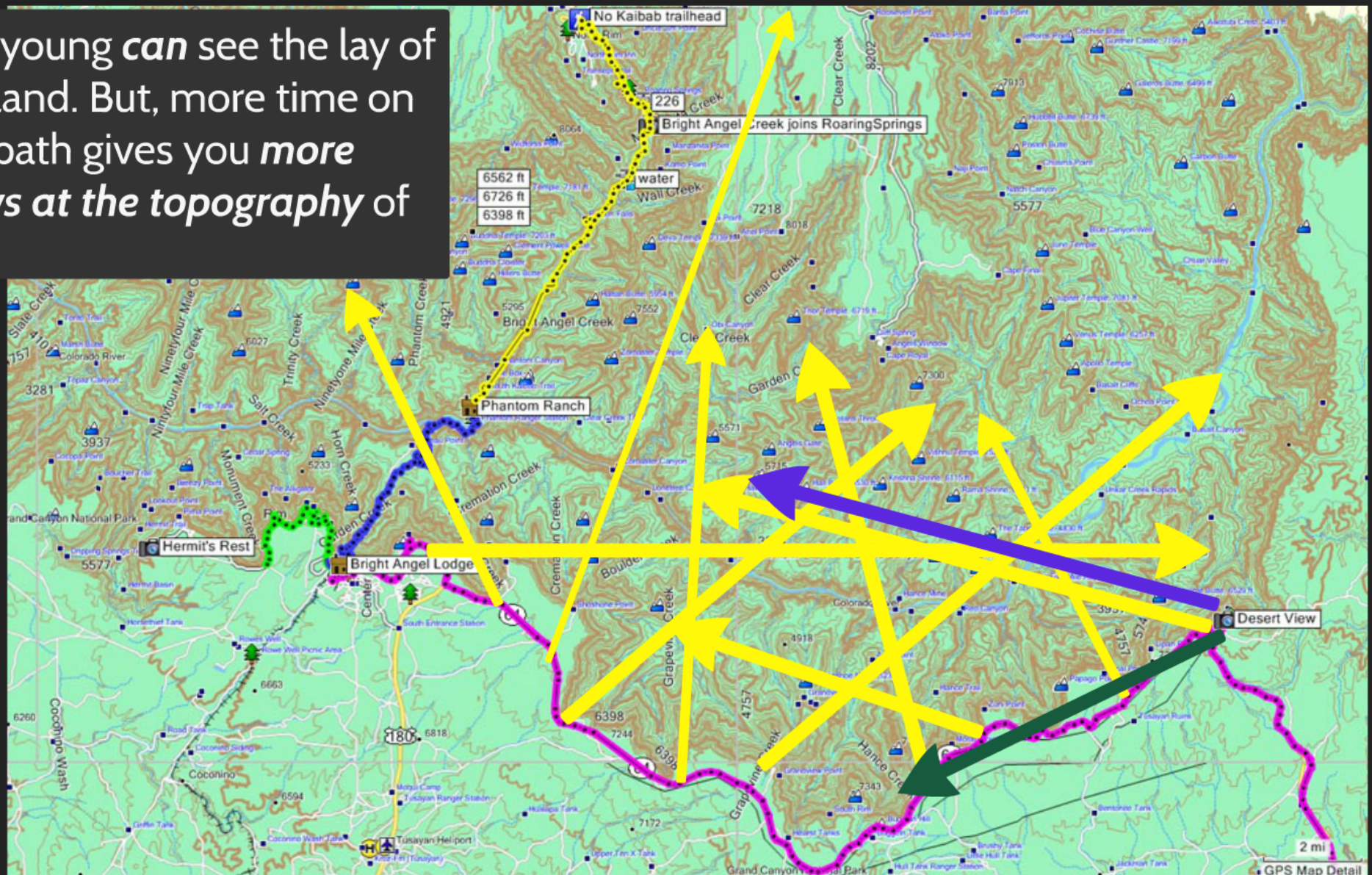
Humility toward older people isn't humiliation

The young *can* see the lay of the land. But, more time on the path gives you *more views at the topography* of life.





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