

Growing Older & Wiser Bible Study III: Listening to the Young – Job 32

Opening Questions:

- 1) Most of us associate wisdom with old age. What are some situations in which you would seek the advice of someone younger than you?

- 2) How do you think you'd respond to a younger person who walked up to you and offered you some advice concerning how to handle a problem that your peers haven't been able to help you solve?

Going Deep:

1. According to the opening verses of today's lesson, Elihu decides to speak to Job because he's angry about two things. What are those two things and would they have led you to speak up if you had been in Elihu's position? Why or why not?

2. Do you agree with Elihu's position that great people aren't always wise and that older people don't always act justly? Give an example of why you feel this way.

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3. Have you ever felt moved to say something to help someone else gain a better understanding of God's will for their lives but ignored the feeling until God wouldn't let you keep silent anymore? If so, why did you delay speaking up for so long?

4. Job could've ignored Elihu's request to be able to share his thoughts concerning how Job could resolve his problem. Instead, Job chose to listen to what Elihu had to say. What do you think would happen if older generations within the church listened to the thoughts of younger generations?

5. People tend to talk what they know. Job's friends based their comments of their understanding of the God-Human relationship from the human side of the equation. Elihu based his comments on the God side of that same equation. In other words, Elihu asked Job to shift the way he approached what was happening to him and what that meant for his relationship with God. Give an example of how a believer from one generation might help a believer from another generation look at life differently so that the one in crisis can see God working through the crisis?
