

GUARDRAILS MINISTRIES

Conversation Starters

Passing the Baton

Opening Thoughts:

Today, one of the major challenges faced by the church is the need for intergenerational discipleship.

A recent study by Iron Sharpens Iron found that 63% of Millennials and Generation X individuals expressed a desire for an older man to mentor them. Specifically, they are looking for someone who can fulfill four key roles:

1. Be **RELATABLE**, rather than preachy.
2. Listen to them without attempting to fix their problems; be **RESPONSIVE** and non-judgmental.
3. Be accessible and **RELIABLE**.
4. Be genuine and authentic, taking off the mask and being **REAL**.

Foundational Scripture:

(Psalms 78:5-6 NKJV) ⁵For He established a testimony in Jacob, And appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children; ⁶That the generation to come might know them, the children who would be born, that they may arise and declare them to their children.

Leading the Conversation:

The Christian life can be likened to a relay race, and the challenge for Christian men is to “*Pass the Baton*” to the next generation. In a relay race, there are four key principles:

1. The runner with the baton must not slow down.
2. The runner waiting to receive the baton should give the one passing it an easy target to hit.
3. There is a specific, limited time and place for the baton to be exchanged.
4. Each runner must understand the exchange of the baton is more important than the leg of the race they are currently running. This is because if the baton is not passed, the race cannot be won.

At this moment, you are somewhere in the process of this relay race. Regardless of your position, it is essential to be intentional about either “*Passing the Baton*” or receiving it; otherwise, the race will be lost.

Conversation Starters:

1. Where are you in your leg of the race?
2. If you are at the end, regardless of how you ran your leg, how can you best prepare for the next leg?
3. If you are at the beginning, are you providing the previous runner with a good target, and are you committed to running your leg well to set up the next leg?
4. If you are in the middle, are you fully taking responsibility for your leg by running the best race you can?
5. When it comes to the four things a younger man seeks in a discipling relationship, which one is the most important to you, and why?

To see a short video on this *Conversation Starter* go to the Videos tab on www.GuardrailsMinistries.com or click on this link: [Passing the Baton](#)