

Machine generated transcript - This morning is a very special morning I'm not going to be giving it a Father's Day message necessarily but we do want to mention that it is Father's Day Happy Father's Day to all of the men that are here. Yes that's a good time to part time to. I say all of the men we do recognize that there are biological fathers and grandfathers and stuff like that but we also recognize that there are other types of God the role models that also deserve to be celebrated today and much like I know Pastor Jason talks about on Mother's Day Father's Day It might be a really joyous occasion and you might be excited to celebrate with someone or it might be kind of a hard day if a lot of you I don't know this part of my story if you do know this part of my story my dad passed away when I was a little girl and Father's Day has always been kind of a hard day for me ever since then it's not my favorite but that doesn't mean that there aren't men that deserve to be honored and celebrated and I have met so many men here that deserve to be honored for the role that they have played in my life and the leadership and guidance that they have given me so I'm actually going to ask the men to do something a little bit uncomfortable this morning but if I could have all of them then in the room stand up we just would like to acknowledge and honor at the father's on this day so go ahead all of you can do it at the same time so you're not uncomfortable. That's awesome and I'm just going to ask. I'm going to ask you ladies and maybe younger gentleman in the room that we come around these men and I would like us to pray with them. I'm going to actually put this down so I can come prayed to you and if you have someone that you know I know that Dale is back getting stuff ready and there's a couple of guys to make sure that we're covering if you have someone that you want to be praying for that's fine too but let's come sit around the men around us and just pray and on and on this morning. Heavenly Father. Thank you so much for how you reveal yourself to us through these men in this room God thank you so much that you give us a glimpse of who you are through the role that these men play in our lives I pray that today they would feel honored and respected and loved and valued God that they would know the important role that they would feel a burden on their hearts for the important role they play in people's lives we know how important fathers ours who are alive some of us know because that relationship is broken and we don't have it and we wish that we had it and some of us know because we have an excellent one and these men have molded and shaped us into the people that we are today and I just thank you for each and every man and father here in this room and for the role that they have played in all of our lives and a quick detour God help me as I speak today in your name we pray Amen. Thank you everybody you guys are awesome already. So as I get into my message this morning I have this idea come into my head I'm I believe the learn spoke to me about what he wanted to talks what he wanted me to talk about this morning I've known for a while that they were going to be on the mission ship and then I was going to be doing this and you might have noticed that there was a card on your seat when you came in try to hold on to that we're going to be talking about it a little bit more at the end but there is this idea of grow in guy now we as a church have a mission statement can any I'm sorry if this makes you uncomfortable Can anyone tell me of the mission statement by chance then you would know what our vision statement as a church. Reaching for you both are building relationships OK I saw you I heard you reaching for you both your building relationships it's OK if you didn't know that it is on the front of those bulletins that I talked about that I know like to become. Coloring pages later and that's not just talking about the kids I know a lot of adults like to do and stuff it can be helpful to pay attention so I'm not I'm not dogging on that but yes reaching our community through building relationships so we just believe in relational ministry here and that is a vision that God has put on Pastor Jason's heart that we all come alongside and I basically a vision statement is just a way for us to decide OK Is this something if we have a new event or a new something that we want to come along is it worth our time and our message and the way that we decide that is does it come alongside the vision that God has for this church does it help us to reach our community through building relationships now that there is a single sentence but it's still a little bit wordy right it's still kind of a lot to say so we have a little shorter tidbit I don't even know what you want to call it but we like to say grow and guide that is what helps us with our vision statement that's what helps us to better understand in a shorter stick year a little phrasing. Recherche and reaching our community

through building relationships this idea of growing growing from other people and guiding guiding other people along in their faith walk in their faith journey and I have got just had on my Hartley some. I don't know what that sentence was because even I've been thinking a lot about some really cool ladies that have influenced my life and have helped me grow and shape me into the person I am today and I'm going to talk about a couple of people and there's two things there's two little disclaimers I want to give this there are so many women there are so many people here in this church that have already in the year and a half that I've been here have influenced my life and helped shape me and helped me continue to grow in my face I'm not going to be talking about anyone here specifically today because there's too many of you and I just didn't want to leave anybody out and hurt anybody's feelings so I'm not excluding you guys because you have another part of my life that's why and secondly I'm going to be talking specifically about women that have influenced my life and here's why they are definitely relationships between men and women that can be healthy and we can grow I work with Pastor John and Pastor Jason on a regular basis we go through books together we push each other they help me grow they help me to become a better leader and a better pastor every day but there are certain things that I just don't talk to them about but there are certain things that I don't relate to them as well about and that doesn't mean that they never see a certain size of me and they have definitely seen me cry on many more occasions than they're probably comfortable with because I don't I don't know and crying I'm I'll let anybody see me cry I don't care they're not quite as comfortable of that but they deal with it it's fine they're good about it but if I really need to just sit and have a session with someone or I sob and I'm pouring my heart out those are the guys that I go to. Because it's just we relate differently and that's OK God made us absolutely equal god mean men and women absolutely equal but he made us different humanist different and he's given us that same gender and he's given me ladies in my life that have spoken in my life and related to me on a way that I'm and just won't and that's OK That's what is there for so I'll be talking about ladies if you're a man you can go ahead and be thinking about the men that have influenced your life and they probably influenced your life differently than these ladies I'm influenced mine and that's OK that's good and healthy so I've been thinking about three ladies specifically the first one I met when I was just starting high school so when I was a freshman in high school that's when I started attending church regularly for the first time I mean I shouldn't say for the first time but it was on my own it was my own decision I begged my mom to bring me to church every week and till she did and I met this woman named Teresa in Teresa has been and awesome awesome influence in my life through so it's just a youth leader and she was a youth leader I shouldn't say just a youth leader and youth leaders are also they're incredible as Theresa showed in my life. She was just a youth leader she was in credential that she didn't have she was a stay at home mom she just showed up on Wednesday nights she helped with small groups we did a small group in her house every other week and she just took an interest in my life is really what happened she lived close by to me the way that our church works I was I didn't actually live in the town where the church that I went to was I had to drive about fifteen or twenty minutes and she lived out in a town near where I lived and so she was kind of close by we I would often babysit her kids she had three kids I believe when I met her and now her and her husband have four kids and I would babysit their kids and when they would get back for the night before I would leave we would talk for a long time. I'm. Going to I might sometimes reference my mom she's in the back of the room I probably shouldn't point out to you because she might never come back but right I would not come back at the time that they would get back there would be like an hour or two later because we were just talking about life they would ask me questions they would remember my answers and they'd ask me about something the next time that they saw me they just her and her husband they took an interest in me and. I actually don't talk to her quite as much today she is quite sick right now she is going through some stuff in her life but there are still times that we reach out and we talk to each other and I know what's going on in her life and she asked me what's going on in my life and so that's a relationship that's really impacted me the second lady that I thought of her name is Amanda she came midway through my high school so in between my. What is what is the middle to software

engineer and then eleventh grade she came and she was the youth pastor's wife of the new youth pastor that came during that time in my life and. To this day I mean it was a week or two ago I just called Amanda and we had another long conversation about all of the different things that are going on in our lives and it just started with her investing in my life again it was easy I babysat her kids so we would talk before and after I would come in we would just hang out and she was an adult obviously I was still a teenager but she just became my friend and she took such an interest in my life and in knowing the things that were going on around me she took an interest in me she I can't I can't even explain I mean and it is a really really awesome lady and even though we live she actually lived in the image you for a little while and she just moved back to Mabel this constant so she's far away again but even with that distance even They'll we're not related at all we're not related to each other she still has an interest in my life. She still calls to find out what's going on with me and how I'm doing she asks me accountability questions to this day ask me if I am doing my devotionals the way that I should be and praying enough and all of these things that we started talking about in high school she still has an interest in today and lastly this name might be a little bit more familiar to some of you but my friend Laura read some of you know her some of you might not that's OK She's one of our board members in the church the guy who's actually doing. Some of the Father's Day stuff later which I forgot to tell you guys about but we'll get to it and I'll just keep you in suspense. It's his daughter in law Laura Reed She was the Children's Pastor at the church that I went to after I came back from college anyway I met her we are actually of different stages a lot of her and her husband have been married for a few years they just had their first child they had a little girl the main thing that we have in common is that we're both children pastors and we both have a heart and a passion for children's ministry and she really just poured into me and she helped me grow so much into the Children's Pastor that I am today and if it wasn't for her and her husband and his family that's sitting over in that role over there I wouldn't be here today she really really helped to mold and guide me into who I am those three ladies that and like I said there's many others there's many here that I could talk about but you guys are probably ready for me to move on I know I am so. So those are the three that I'm going to talk about today and. How that can work through just about anything and I know that if we all if all that we had to live on in our faith was the Bible. We probably would be OK Big good there is there is stuff in here there's answers to life questions God gives us this. For a reason but God doesn't just give us this and expect us to open it and read through it and hear absolutely everything that we need to hear on our own God gives us people to help us understand this better he knew what he was doing when he did that like I said I don't want to discredit the. Having faith poured it and being able to talk to God on your own is important but we don't have to be on our own we don't have to be alone God I'm sure so many of you are thinking of people that have guided you thinking of women that have taught you maybe even that have taught you more about faith but just taught you about acting like a lady or men who taught you to go fishing I don't know what do you guys is that what you do you go fishing and camping and I don't really know I'm not I'm not discrediting all the like mainly stuff that you guys like to do it's just not what I'm interested in so I don't know much about what ya like to do around here and some of you ladies that's what you were taught to do because the ladies in your life like to go hunting and fishing and so that's what you're interested in too and I took a totally fine but. What if I didn't have those three ladies what if I didn't have people in my life that were teaching me what the Bible says when I have the same understanding of it today but I still understand all of the words and scriptures and verses that those ladies helped me to understand that the men and women in my life have helped me to have a better understanding of the whole. I much I wouldn't be here I wouldn't be here where I am and how God is working through me today without so many of those relationships and who would you be if you didn't have the people that spoke into your life and brought you to God. Would you be here today some of you might be I won't describe it that some of you might still be here today but I'm sure there is. A few of you who might not be here as well who might not be in the same place you might not have the same peace and understanding that you have today if you didn't have those people in your life and what scares me the most about that is we have a whole generation of young

people people are still having kids we're still having where people were still growing the church that way. What if they never have anybody what if they never have anybody that comes along side of them and takes an interest in them and helps them to grow that guides them so often were quick to talk about this younger generation generations they're calling it technically by dates of birth and everything technically I am a part of this youngest generation I am a part of generations you crazies fact it's Generation Z. Is people twenty five and under I fit that category if you did not know generations he is the youngest generation there and millennials who also millennial is in there because I feel like a lot of people have a lot to say about millennia but who is guiding them who is guiding these people who is teaching them about their faith who is teaching them about the proper way to act in society. There's there's classes of kids there's teenagers that sit in here every week those young people need to be guided and what if they have no one what if no one is there to guide them because we're not willing. I'd like you to Terry and I'm going to be talking about a portion of Scripture for a minute I've got my Bible here if you've got your Bible with you you can go ahead and turn it to Titus now I only found it so fast because I had it marked If it takes you a little bit longer that's OK Titus is towards the back of the Bible if you've hit Hebrews and some other stuff what else is back here if you get Hebrews and revelation that you've gone too far but it's a tiny little book it's got like three chapters so it's super short it's easy to miss but if you're looking it up on your phone it'll be much easier to be towards the end of the list and I also would just hold to have you say no I got it perfect I'd also like to point out that there's this awesome feature in most paperback Bibles that I feel like so often or ashamed of using this thing called index Don't be afraid to use it don't be ashamed to use it if you don't know your Bible and if you just want to find Titus Don't be ashamed There's no shame in using the index it'll tell you exactly if you find Titus it'll tell you exactly what page it is in your Bible I'm not going to tell you what page is in my Bible because it'll probably be different I mean you're reading from Titus two this morning and I will read over all of you talking about verses one through eight hate it when preachers don't tell me what verses they're going to be reading of and I can't write them down in my own notes so Titus two one through eight is what we're going to be talking about and I'm going to be kind of interjecting a little bit in between just so you know but yes one through eight starting in verse one I heard I heard ruffling I think we're good and if you have an online version and you want the words that I'm reading this is n n l t Bible New Living Translation but whatever translation you're comfortable with is just fine. So. Titus two one says As for you Titus promote the kind of living that reflects wholesome teaching teach the older men to exercise self-control to be worthy of respect and to live wisely they must have sound faith and be filled with love and patience Similarly teach the older women to live in a way that honors God they must not slander others or be heavy drinkers Instead they should teach others what is good these older women and must train the younger women to love their husbands and their children to live wisely and be purer to work in their homes to do good and to be submissive to their husbands then they will not bring shame on the Word of God Now I'm going to pause here because this Bible passage has the potential to be taken wildly out of context and I just want to give it a little bit of context so there's kind of two trains of thought that might be going through your mind right now number one some people might be thinking see women be submissive to your husbands I know there are other translations that say that women need to be busy at home and that that is their place and that is what is going on and some of you might be thinking yeah women that's what you need to be doing and on the other hand some of you might be thinking I'm looking in this direction for a reason some of you might be thinking is that what the Bible says why would you even be reading that that I just need to be submissive and living at home and being busy at home I'm not going to listen to the rest of this both of those are wrong but those are not the concepts that this is in if you look at the culture of this time when this was written This is Paul that is writing to a young man named Titus who is over at church and he's telling him kind of what needs to be fixed in the church in that culture women were expected to be busy at home and to be submissive to their husbands that's just what people expected of them I'm not going to make any comments about it that's right or wrong that's just what it is and. If the other people if the people that they were preaching to if the people

that they were trying to win over for Christ saw that the women were doing these certain things or that the men were doing these certain things and not behaving a certain way their whole message was going to be discredited they weren't going to listen to them they wouldn't be able to spread the gospel because they saw how their families were running and in their minds it was utter chaos and so what she's saying is that women should live if you certain ways and do this certain things so they will not bring shame on the Word of God There is still the aspect of submissiveness that wives are to have to their husbands and husbands are to have to their wives there is still some of that but the point here that Paul is trying to make is that. Act in such a way that you will not shaming the Word of God act in such a way to teach each other to act in a way that will make your message be heard that will make the gospel go even farther so I had to interject that there. On continuing on in the same way encourage the young men to live wisely and you yourself must be an example to them by doing good works of every kind let everything you do reflects the integrity and seriousness of your teaching teach the truth so that your teaching can't be criticized then those who oppose us will be ashamed and have nothing bad to say about us so this idea of guiding of men guiding the young men of ladies guiding the younger ladies it's in the Bible it was one of the things that Paul wanted to address in this specific church because it wasn't happening and it needed to be happening guidance for the younger generations is so important and if you're in here today. You're probably older than someone else in this room if you are here. And you are listening and engaging with me there is somebody in this in this room in this church that you can be guiding that you can be pouring into if you want an example again I'll point out there's a whole bunch of classes of younger kids and I know what you're thinking Oh they brought the Children's Pastor in here and now she's plugging for children's volunteers not what I'm saying you can all relax I'm not going to do that I'm not going to beg for volunteers this morning that's not what I'm saying but there's a whole bunch of kids there's a whole bunch of kids that run around this church something that I have tried to be a little bit more intentional about recently is bringing kids along with me as I'm just doing stuff around the church and letting them see how I interact with you guys how I interact with other kids letting them do life with me so even out that's outside of the classroom if you want to be inside of the classroom we can make that happen but it can happen outside of the classroom as well there's a whole rows of teenagers I know there's usually a role like kind of it's in the section right Actually I'm not normally in here so I'm pretty sure it's right there's a row of teenagers that kind this sits there and they're kind of spread out everywhere but there are people there is someone in this church that you could be guiding their someone in your life it doesn't just have to be in this church and I hope and pray that you are taking it outside of these walls that you are taking it outside of this building and that you're not just guiding people here or checking off a certain thing and saying oh I did this in church today so I'm good I've guided who I needed to I hope that this is something that extends beyond these walls but within there's walls these walls there's places to guide to there's people to be guiding and so like I said that was that was one of the things that Paul wanted to address specifically for this church that older men guide the younger ones teach them how to be respectful teach them to be men of God. Fathers This is why we celebrate you today because you have guided us because you have been the men that you needed to be and where there where there is hurt and heartbreak that's because that was lacking because it's so important women. As it's Father's Day I know that we keep addressing that but this is important for you too we are to be ladies that stand up and teach the younger women not just to be busy at home but when it needs to be done to be busy at home when it needs to be done to be out and to be teaching and to be guiding our kids are the teenagers and the people around us and the other adults around us it doesn't just have to be kids and teenagers and this whole idea of mentoring can be kind of a little bit scary sometimes because it feels like a really big time commitment the ladies that I talked about earlier they all took a pretty significant amount of time to invest into my life because we became friends and we wanted to spend time with each other I hope I hope they wanted to spend time with me they spent a lot of time with me so hopefully they enjoyed some of that time but. These ladies they invested a lot of time not everybody that had a big part in my faith walk invested a lot of time with me just a few years ago I was one of those

teenagers not in this church in another church that came to church so often by myself I sat with my friends I sat with sometimes other families usually just my friends I think I sat with other friends and they would be adults that would come up to me every week during the greeting time before service after service and just talk to me and some of them I don't have any contact with anymore but they still had such an impact on my life by coming up to me asking me a question and then the next week they'd ask something about what we talked about that we before they remembered the things that were going on in my life they remembered the things that were important to me and they continued to ask about them they continued to invest import into my life by taking thirty seconds of their greeting time and greeting somebody other than their family and their normal group of friends around them and that made a huge difference in my life that made a huge difference in my walk with God Maybe there's a neighbor kid that is in your neighborhood and they're always coming around and messing around in your yard just as you're getting ready to do somethin maybe next time instead of trying to shoo them away or figuring out where their parents are the next time you ask them if they can help you and even if you just give them a job that kind of keeps them out of the way a little bit what they're going to remember from that is the kindness that you show them is that you see what you said to them with your actions was you are valuable you are worth my time you are worth being here you are worth it and that's what they'll walk away from instead of all I'm just a bother I'm a bother here or it. It's kind of fun to be here because it really annoyed that old man next door not that any of you are old men but. So maybe isn't a rigid maybe some of you that have kids in the house so that have young kids in your kids' best friend the really annoying line which you never say and you never think but you know that kid is over for the millionth time this week because it's summer break and you know what else are they going to be doing maybe just like here at church maybe you ask that kid maybe you start to ask them about their lives and the things that are going on and so the next time they can over you can say hey how was that math test did it go OK or hey how were swimming lessons yesterday you had some lessons yesterday I don't know it was the day before OK how do you go you know we don't remember perfectly I don't remember things perfectly and how the time I have to ask people their names eighty times before I can actually remember them but if you just show them if you show them that if you have an interest in their life that you want to help guide them they're going to remember that it's going to impact their life in one way or another and this is obviously I'm speaking to a church and I'm speaking predominantly to a group of people that believe in Jesus and have accepted him and want people to grow in their faith this concept though it goes beyond just faith mentoring and men and women guiding each other is such an important thing in life in general in teaching the next generation just how to act like socially acceptable human beings you know what I'm saying we've all kind of seen people who were like oh who who raised you to act like that in a restaurant right am I alone in that has anyone ever seen some of that kind of behavior. We've all we've all kind of seen that kind of stuff coming alongside of someone and teaching them good morals and values if we are Christians. It should be so much more on our hearts because we know that that's what brings close people closer to Jesus we believe this idea of growing guy is how we're going to reach this community how we're going to reach people for Christ but it's it can go even beyond that just teaching other people to be decent human beings is such an important thing it's how we're going to get that next generation to maybe not be so intitled to maybe not be so self-centered to maybe not what are some other things that we like to stereotype the younger people as those are just some that are on the top of my head it's a stereotype and some of them might be I'm going to give a little bit of grace especially to the really younger ones you know when you're a kid you're a lot of time to look if you're a little bit self-centered they will if they are guided they can grow out of that and even if they're older and even if it's already kind of ingrained they can still grow out of it if they start to have Godling influences in their lives if we have godly influences in our lives I I'm not going to sit here and say that I am never in titles that I am never selfish that I am never any of these things I have a long way to go I would like to think that I'm not a super intitled or a selfish person overall you know I hope and pray that that's not what people take away from for me but that's not because I grew up and learned that on my own that's because I had

people that's because I had a mom that taught me that that I had a mom that taught me not to be selfish and not to be entitled and not to be self-centered I was taught those things I was taught those characteristics and as important as those people are in our lives and as important as those ladies were to helping me grow it's not enough if it ends here it's not enough if it just ends with me if I just soaked in all of that stuff. If I soaked in all of those principles and that baby and I just left it here. So sorry Alexa keeps thinking I'm talking to her. There she is again it's not enough it's not enough if it just ends with me and it's not and if it just ends with you how different could this generation be this generation of entitled self-centered kids and teenagers and young adults how different could they be if they had had someone who invested in just a little bit of time if they had a lot of people who invested a little bit of time and if they had a few people who invested a lot of time into their lives what would this world look like what would our community look like how would it be different if each and every one of us in this room took that time like I said maybe a little bit maybe some more time maybe there's several more people maybe you're challenged to reach out to and invest in a little bit and maybe there's one or two that you have on your heart so I'm going to have you turn your attention now to these little cards that I mentioned earlier and we're just going to take a few minutes so Pastor Jason introduced to these about a year ago I believe believe it was coming up on just a year I listen to his sermons I listen to the recordings and so sometimes I try to remember that stuff but so not always great remembering I believe it was about a year ago he introduced these cards they're the exact same cards he gave them to me when he found out what I was going to be preaching about and if you were not here then this is all new to you you can stop listening for a second I mean kind of listen so you can tell when I'm supposed to talk to you again but if you're new here then this is very new to you if you did this with us a year ago what I want you to do during this time is I want you to revisit it maybe you remember what you wrote down on this card. And maybe you say me and I really didn't grow as much I didn't invest in this relationship of this person who grew into me and I didn't really guide maybe you did it maybe you grew even more you paid attention to this column of these people that you grew from and maybe you helped to guide someone new and now you're ready to refill out the card and to dedicate yourself to that again and say OK what can I do next because there's always more to be done our work is not done yet right amen it's not done yet there's always more to be done and if you are new to this if you've never seen one of these cards before there's two columns grow and guide and there's only two little lines on each one and I know my handwriting is way bigger than these little lines provide So if you need to put the card over write it on something else maybe jot it down on your phone do it every you need to but there's a column here for grow and that is just kind of a way for you to remind yourself these are the people that have helped me grow if you really feel like you have no one that has helped you grow in your faith specifically I ask that you would be praying about that and you would be praying to God to reveal to me someone who can pour into my life if that is true in this church come talk to me talk to one of the pastors we would love to help you grow we would love to point you to someone who can help you grow we don't want you to be doing this alone I speak that in confidence I didn't ask them that beforehand but I promise none of us want you to be doing this alone so don't be afraid to ask me or any of the pastors or leaders here about that about someone that you can help you grow in your faith and then I want you to write down also in the guide column some ideas of people or maybe a group of people maybe it's the teenagers or the kids or this group of young adults that you know or this group of moms or whatever it is this group of people that you can help guide in their faith that you can be alone. Into And if you are not feeling qualified if you're not feeling like you really truly have anything you're so brand new to your face and you don't you just don't have anything how awesome would it be if someone saw hey this person is really new to their faith they've been following Jesus only in a few more weeks than I have but they're already trying to pour into me what kind of testimony is that how awesome would that be just know that God if he is put someone on your heart if he gives you an idea of someone to be guiding he will make sure that you say what you need to say he will make sure that you don't say what you don't need to say if you are truly listening to him and allowing Him to guide you above all else so we're just going to take a couple of minutes not to on

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we're going to play it's in music during this time and I want you if you would to be praying and thinking about what those names are and maybe writing them down before we get into that I'm going to ask someone it's eleven forty could someone go round up the kids classrooms and let them know Larry think you are right just that we're going to be about five minutes or so a little bit early. Thanks. Jane. Jane came. A. Thank. You. Thank. You and. Thanks. To him and. Thank. You so much. I think you for the people that you have place in our lives the dad as we are celebrating today in my arms the men and women that house us grow. And to become the people and the church that we are today and I pray over this congregation and the people that you placed on their hearts for them to guide the people that you shown them that they tend guy that you will be with them Lord they would feel you with them that they would know without a shadow of a down that you are with them God that you would empower ending in courage and strength in them to go out and guide people Lord I pray that they would guide the people that are on their Listen that you would continue as they are in this walk with you to reveal to them more people that they can guide more people that they can bring closer to a relationship with you Lord I think you so much for the opportunity I had to speak this message to this church today and I just pray for us as we go on today a little bit later as we enjoy a Father's Day treat that's coming and I just pray that you would bless our time and fellowship together and thank you for this day and your name we pray Amen.