

# Daily Prayer

TUESDAY, JULY 28

Today's prayer is based on I Timothy 5.1-2, ESV.

*Do not rebuke an older man*

Father, thank you for preserving this counsel from Paul the elder statesman,  
to Timothy, the young protégé,

on how to carry himself in service to the Body of Christ, the Church.

Lord, at sixty-five, I still want to rebuke some of the older men -

Lord, forgive me.

Lord, help me remember what my culture seems to forget too often -

that there is a certain deference due the aged,

not that the oldest person is always right,

but they are older and perhaps may know more options.

At the very least they deserve respect

for having survived this far in a very tough world.

*but encourage him as you would a father,*

Grant me the grace to get over myself and to be an encourager.

Help me see the positive word that builds up -

and not be so quick to condemn or criticize.

*younger men as brothers,*

Lord, help me want the best for others.

Keep me from using people for my own ends

but to be genuinely concerned for their best interests.

*older women as mothers,*

Help me treat older women as I would my mother,

with all regard and respect,

*younger women as sisters,*

and the same with the younger women, as my sisters.

*in all purity.*

Keep my heart pure in my relationships with all others,  
regardless of gender.

Help me use things and love people -

not the other way around,

for Jesus and His kingdom's sake. Amen.

personalized by ptc