

Youth Leaders Only!
16 Reasons Y Gen Y Changes
the World for the Better
& 3 Reasons Y Not
-Meet The Timothy Generation-

James Rock, Trout Lake Camps/infusedministries.com, jrock@tds.net

Intro: Most of us have been making a fatal mistake in our ministries- our youth have changed, but we're still running youth groups for Gen Xers. If we don't change this mindset soon, we are going to miss out in helping what could be the greatest generation in history. These kids have the heart to change the world, but they need you to challenge them. In this seminar we will work together to understand Gen Y/Millennials and create a few we strategies (see Paul and Timothy) so we can help them in their quests.

The Most Significant Barna Study EVER!

- Pastors overestimate congregants' faith dedication. Pastors would like to believe
- most members of their flocks are dedicated Christians, but far fewer individuals
- than these church leaders estimate actually make their faith a significant priority.
- According to a recent study, the average American Protestant pastor assumes
- that **70** percent of adults in the congregation give God first place in their lives. In
- reality, only **23** percent of American adults who attend Protestant churches
- claimed their faith in God as a number-one priority.
- The researchers believe this difference is connected to the standards by which
- pastors judged congregants' devotion to God. They relied heavily on church
- volunteerism and attendance, and a life-changing experience (often a
- commitment to Christ as Savior). Referenced fewer times were such factors as
- evangelism involvement, Biblical knowledge gained, spiritual maturity,
- accountability, and faith integration into daily life.

Timothy Text- Philippians 2:19-22

"I hope in the Lord Jesus **to send Timothy** to you soon, that I also may be cheered when I receive news about you. **I have no one else like him, who takes a genuine interest in your welfare. For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.** But you know that Timothy has proved himself, because as a son with his father he has served with me in the work of the gospel. I hope, therefore, to send him as soon as I see how things go with me.

THE REASONS

Reason #7 Gen Y changes...

They are not Gen X! X made no difference... not really responded to... didn't really set any trends... too busy trying to make nothing out of life, seeking ways to disprove truth to make anything significant happen...

Gen Y hates that Gen X doesn't stand for anything... don't you?

What can we/your Church can do?

Stand for Something!

Reason #2 Gen Y follows the changer...

Every Four Generations Theory (**Greatest**, Boomers, X, **Y**)

Same basic style of Generation repeats! (Howard Strause)

Yea!! The return of the WWII Generation/Greatest Generation!

But, they are a powerful force waiting to be led...

(US- FDR, Germany- Hitler, Russia-Stalin, England- Churchill)

... they are waiting to be led, who is going to led them??

What can we do?

Connect Youth To Greatest Gen?!

Find Sr's that will drive, hangout, etc...

Problem- Sr's feel they already did their part, scared of crazy kids

Inspire some leaders!

Present Timothy

Present the Life of Jesus

Reason #9 Gen Y changes...

HATE INSINCERITY!!

Gen Y cannot tolerate insincerity

- The Sell, Deal, They Smell out Desperate Motivation

What can we do?

Reason #3 Gen Y changes...

If you feel like you weren't fed growing up, your going to have an intense hunger" -Gen Y student

What can we do?

Feed them...

Reason #8 Gen Y changes...

Compared to Gen X

More satisfied by life

More Optimistic

Feel **more** capable

Feel **more** spiritual

Feel **more** attractive

More overt about being

Spiritual (seeking help)

What can we do?

Stay out of the way...

Reason #5 Gen Y changes...

1/3 are convinced they will see peace in the middle east in their lifetime...

What can we do?

Reason #10 Gen Y changes...

Most ministries act like/think we are ministering to Gen X...

Gen Y hates Gen X stuff

Even more they hate Gen X stereotypes

-not slackers- not lazy- that's quitting

-they are struggling with focus

What can we do?

Learn...

Reason #13 Gen Y changes...

“Hyper-global”

Reason #1 Gen Y changes...

“You mean... I, we can change the world? We can do something... no-one has ever told me that...” – Jr. High Girl

What can we do?

Encourage...

Timothy Text #1- Acts 16

He (Paul) came to Derbe and then to Lystra, where a disciple named Timothy lived, whose mother was a Jewess and a believer, but whose father was a Greek. The brothers at Lystra and Iconium spoke well of him. Paul wanted to take him along on the journey, so he circumcised him because of the Jews who lived in that area, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. As they traveled from town to town, they delivered the decisions reached by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem for the people to obey. So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers.

Reason #4 Gen Y changes...

Commercials...

What can we do?

Advertise Properly

Reason #11 Gen Y changes...

Only interested in what’s real, or what’s plain fun...

Movies Example-

Love classics-

Very Real movies- Braveheart, Lord of the Rings, The Passion

Or unapologetically unreal movies- Napoleon Dynamite, Dumb and Dumber

Movies that BOMB!- claim to be real but are not real...

(Offended by movies that leave the original book...)

What can we do?

Reason Y Not #B

Most un-churched generation

What can we do?

Reason #11 Gen Y changes...

Reject mass anything...

But-

They want to know the truth...

What can we do?

Reason #12 Gen Y changes...

Spiritual but rejecting the Church... because we claim to be real, but aren't... They are not committing to a single faith... That's good... a great wake up call for Christianity!!

What can we do?

Reason Y Not #C

The Self Esteem Bubble (USA TODAY)

What can we do?

Be Honest
Raise Expectations

Timothy Text #3-

1 Timothy 4:12-16

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity. Until I come devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you. Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

Reason #B7Z Gen Y changes...

Gen Y understands when Jesus said take up your cross and die... not pick up your cross and win a free toaster... (to Gen X that's intolerant) to Gen Y that's urgency...

What can we do?

Don't sell!
Don't be gentle!
TELL THE EXACT TOTAL HARD NOSED CHURCH!
(Every Gen Y wants to see/feel the disturbing- to be pushed)

Reason #14 Gen Y changes...

Desire to make a difference... they have a heart...

"Give it to me, anything to help me feel alive, knock me off my feet"

What can we do?

Reason #52 Gen Y changes...

Feel short changed--- promises not meet...

What can we do?

Reason Y Not #A

Openings for Gen Y Leaders now Available!! (We can mentor...)

What can we do?

Develop Leaders (Strong!!! Focused!!! Genuine!!!)

Your Personal and Church's to-do with Gen Y list...

Acknowledge your differences with Gen Y don't try to be like them...

Be Real, Find Real Examples of Christians who actually follow Jesus

Think Classic!!

Ask... "What is the world is trying to sell you..."

Ask... "What does the world have to offer you"

Ask... "How many billions is the world spending to sell you..."

Lead them to meet "Global needs"

Led them to a "Deeper Calling"

Teach Spiritual Disciplines

More group participation

Listen to their opinions

They can seem "unreachable"- you may have to go to them...

Remember, they are not Gen X - They believe in truth- they feel a calling in their hearts!"

James Rock is the Program Director at Trout Lake Camps, and writes In | Site Magazine's "Get with the Program" column, a speaker, author, and father of North America's most opposite personality boy/girl twins.

jrock@tds.net

www.troutlakecamps.org / www.jamesrock.com / www.infusedministries.com

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WHO IS GEN Y?

- Not Linear

Born-1980 – 2000 (26-6ish years old)

14% approve of the name Gen Y / almost 50% approve of the name Millennials / All of them dislike any name including- 14th Generation/Nintendo Generation/ Mosaics / Bridgers / Echo Boom / Cyber Generation etc...

70 million boomers
25 million Gen X
75-80 million Gen Y

“In a nutshell, Mosaics are looking for an authentic experience with God and other people... There has to be a sufficient substance, quality, hope, and genuine mutual concern and acceptance for them to return.”

- George Barna

Gen Y

90% internet access

\$85 dollars per week on luxury items

11 hours on line per week

4.5 hours of TV

25% in single parent home

70% in single parent home at some point

50% w/out biological father

75% working mother

4-33% claim to be “born again”

- of those only 44% are absolutely committed the Christian faith

50% virgins at 17 (improving)

55% wake up un-refreshed everyday

33% Internet helps them make new friends

11% have credit cards

86% trust parents

83% trust police

35% trust celebrities

- no more - “I’m not a doctor, but I play one on TV”

- no more buying shoes to jump higher

- buy shoes to sweat...

30% want 3 or more children

80% believe they will be better off then their parents!

Up/Dn

down smoking,
drinking, drugs

down suicide

down violent crimes

up teen marriage

down school shootings

down teen pregnancy’s

down abortions

Debate/Discussion-

*Holds more weight
then Truth*

They feel under “Pressure”

-not by school violence, but their grades...

Community First!

Diversity (is how they think)

-34% non-white

-2050 Minorities will out number
Caucasian

-100 Languages in Public Schools in
New York

1/2 attend Church, 4 of 5 have gone to a Christian Church this year.

*3 out of 10 20 something’s attend church
4 out of 10 30 something’s attend church
1/2 of 40 +*

yet- 8 of 10 20 something’s said that religious faith is very import in life

6 of 10 claim that faith in Jesus if very important.

*Prayer –
Senior’s followed by 20’s – 3/4 prayed to God in the past week*

This generation is very spiritual, yet “Church” isn’t working.

Post Modern Values

Skeptical of Certainty

Sensitive to Context

(Where is idea coming from?)

Lean to the Humorous

Values Subjective Experience

(Only trust personal
experience)

Describe selves as:

Real Honest Distrustful Cynical Tired

Motivated Contradictory Idealistic

Global Optimistic