GENNEREE

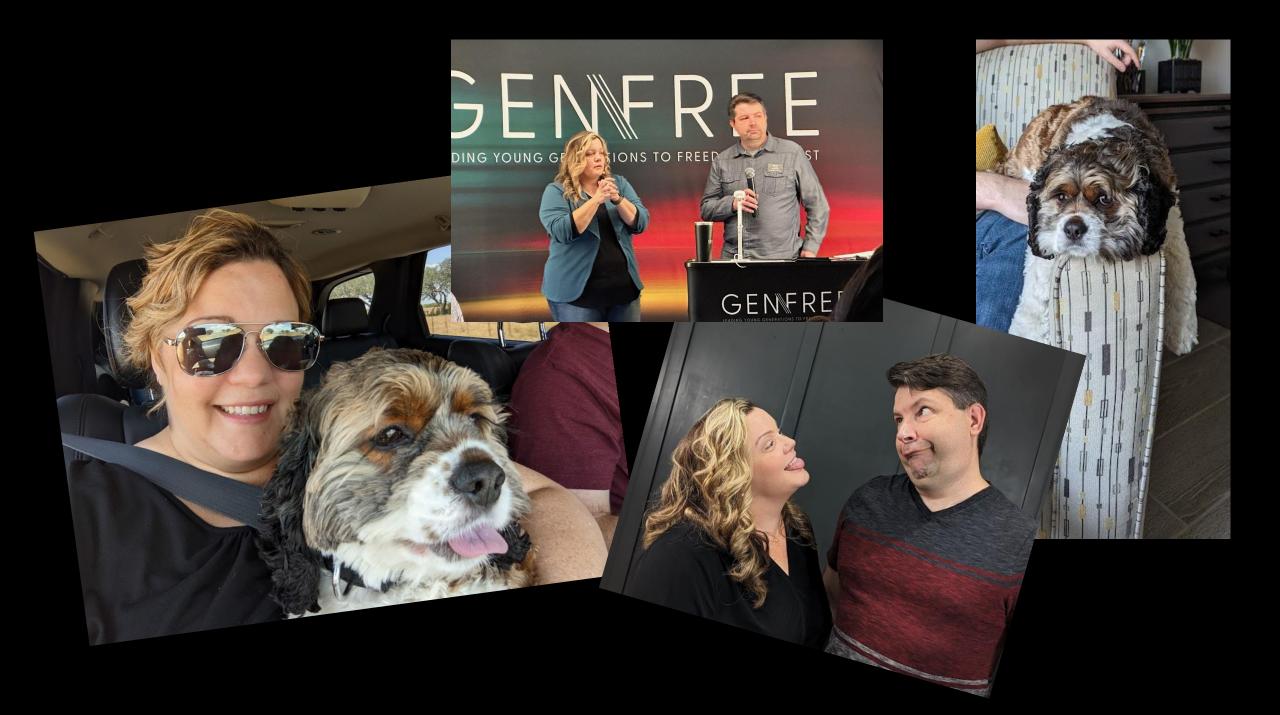
LEADING YOUNG GENERATIONS TO FREEDOM IN CHRIST

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MELLISA PRESSLEY Director of GenFree







What about YOU?





Green- What identity statement "in Christ" do you most need in your heart and mind at this time in your life?
Red- What is the latest verse God is currently pressing in your heart and using in your life?
Orange- What is something others around the table do NOT know about you?
Purple- What is your favorite course in Transform & why?
Yellow- What emoji best depicts/illustrates your day today?



Psalm 78:4-7 (NLT)

We will not hide these truths from our children;

We will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord,

About His power and His mighty wonders.

For He issued His laws to Jacob; He gave is instructions to Israel.

He commanded our ancestors to teach them to their children,

So the next generation might know them –

Even the children not yet born –

And they in turn will teach their own children.

So each generation should set its hope anew on God, Not forgetting His glorious miracles and obeying His commands.





WHEN YOU THINK OF YOUNG GENERATIONS,

WHAT ARE THE **FIRST 5 WORDS** THAT COME TO MIND?

Write them down on a piece of paper...



1 Corinthians 9:19-23 NLT

Even though I am a free man with no master, I have become a slave to all people to bring many to Christ.

When I was with the Jews, I lived like a Jew to bring the Jews to Christ. When I was with those who follow the Jewish law, I too lived under that law. Even though I am not subject to the law, I did this so I could bring to Christ those who are under the law.

When I am with the Gentiles who do not follow the Jewish law, I too live apart from that law so I can bring them to Christ. But I do not ignore the law of God; I obey the law of Christ.

When I am with those who are weak, I share their weakness, for I want to bring the weak to Christ. Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some.

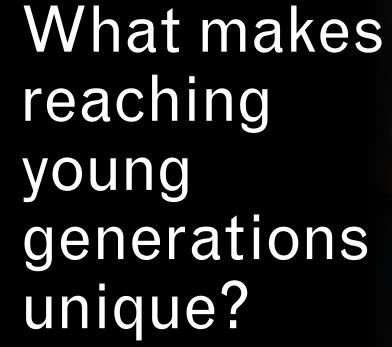
I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings.



What is Paul saying to us in 1 Corinthians 9:19-23?

Discuss at your table...









TODAY'S YOUNG GENERATION



- Gen Z born 1999-2015
- Largest demographic group (32% of the global population)
- Have always been wired...digital natives
- Skilled researchers and fact-checkers
- Visual Multitaskers
- Impatient attention span is 7-8 sec
- Are more accepting of sexual fluidity
- Racially diverse and multiracial
- Independent
- Aware of a troubled planet
- Justice-minded

- Average time on screens: 9-10 hours per day
 - Teens are missing their 2-3 times of REM Sleep, so brain function suffers
 - Self-inflicting identity disorders
- Real Safety is a myth
 - Most Gen Z do not remember the years before 9/11. They do not recall ever having lived in a country at peace
- Their parents are double minded
 - Half say parents are their primary role model, but only 1/3 say that family is core to their identity

GEN Z IDENTITY AND GOALS



Achievement means success:



- 43% state their identity is in their professional/educational achievement
- 66% want to finish their education, start a career and become financially independent by age 30, while only 1 in five wants to be married by then (20%)

Doing is Primary:



- 42% state their identity is in their hobbies and pastimes
- 31% feel these hobbies will help them find who they really are



How have you seen these general characteristics displayed from younger generations in your community and family?

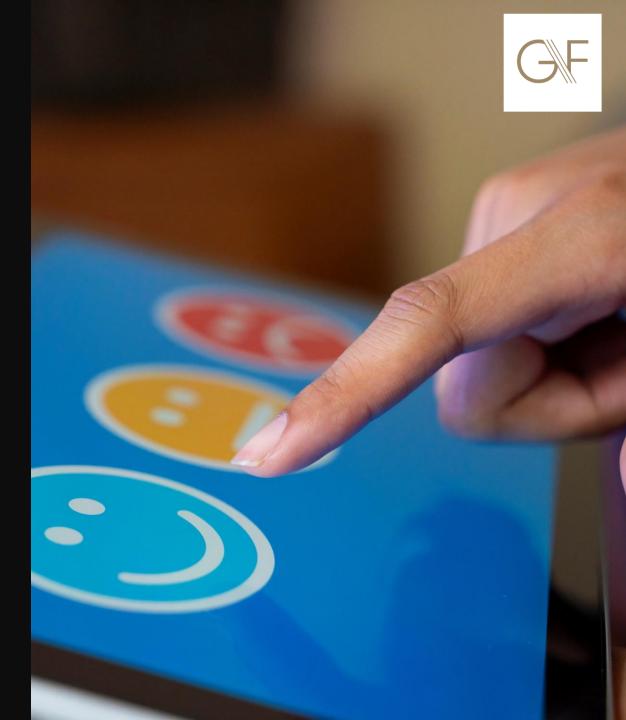
Do agree or disagree with the stats given?

What are the **POSITIVE** aspects of these characteristics?

Discuss at your table...

EMOTIONAL CULTURE IN TODAY'S YOUNG GENERATION

- Lonely
- Overwhelmed
- Anxious
- Want Transparency
- Cautious & Pragmatic (58% are worried about the future)
- Teens are 10-15X more impulsive now then 10 years ago



MORALS IN TODAY'S YOUNG GENERATION

- Only 1/3 of teens believe lying is wrong
- Are more accepting of sexual fluidity
 - 1/3 of teens say gender is how a person feels inside, not their birth sex
 - 1 in 8 describe their sexual orientation as something other than heterosexual (12%)
 - 7 out of 10 believe it's acceptable to be born one gender and like feel another (69%)
- Have seen porn
 - 64% of young people ages 13-24 actively seek out porn weekly or more often
- Only 21% believe sex before marriage is wrong
- Only 29% believe abortion is wrong







When you think of the moral and emotional foundations of young people,

Where does the church or Christians in general play a role?

Discuss at your table...





FAITH IN TODAY'S YOUNG GENERATION

- Post-Christian BUT are open to faith
 - Skepticism toward authority
 - Doubt rather than trust
 - Knowledge without wisdom
 - Distorted view of reality
 - Attempts at spiritual formation without foundation
 - Preferential view of truth

GF

FAITH IN TODAY'S YOUNG GENERATION

Only 4% of Gen Z has a biblical worldview. (Only 12% of today's youth pastors have a biblical worldview)

Teens 13-18 years old are twice as likely as adults to say they are atheist (13% vs. 6%)

79% of young people say they walked away from Christianity during their adolescent and teen years. *Many reported that they left the faith <u>between the</u> <u>ages of 10 and 17</u>.*



WHOEVER STOLE OUR AC UNITS, KEEP ONE. It is hot where you Are going.







READY OR NOT, HERE I COME! - Jesus







WALMART IS NOT THE ONLY SAVING PLACE.







DON'T LET WORRIES KILL You. Let the church Help.







GOD'S LOVE IS DEEPER Than this snow.







IF EVOLUTION WERE TRUE, MOMS WOULD HAVE 6 ARMS!







KNOCK KNOCK. Who's there? Jesus. Jesus Who? Exactly.







IF YOU'RE READING THIS, IT'S NOT TOO LATE. - Jesus







CHURCH PARKING ONLY. VIOLATORS WILL BE BAPTIZED.







NOW IS A GOOD TIME TO VISIT. OUR PASTOR IS ON VACATION.









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GenFree exists to equip and encourage young generations and those who work with them to desire a true knowledge of God through a relationship with Jesus Christ (Eph. 1:17-18).

We will do this by teaching them to:

- understand and believe the *truth* of their identity in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17-20)
- **turn** from deception and live in Truth (1 John 1:6-10)
- mobilize others to live a *transformed* life, free in Christ (Matt. 5:14-16)



WHO & HOW DO WE SERVE

PASTORS & MINISTERS

Building a process of youth ministry
Leading young people to faith
Enabling Bible study
Facilitating conversations
Sharing testimonials and stories

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Counselors
After-school clubs
Community centers
Adult mentors
Collegiate outreach and support groups
Crisis care and intervention teams

PARENTS & FAMILIES

- •Navigating social media
- •Relating to and understanding your young person
- •Modeling security, acceptance, and significance in loving your child
- •Building autonomy and resilience into your young person





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BOOKSTORE RESOURCES

ONLINE DIGITAL RESOURCE



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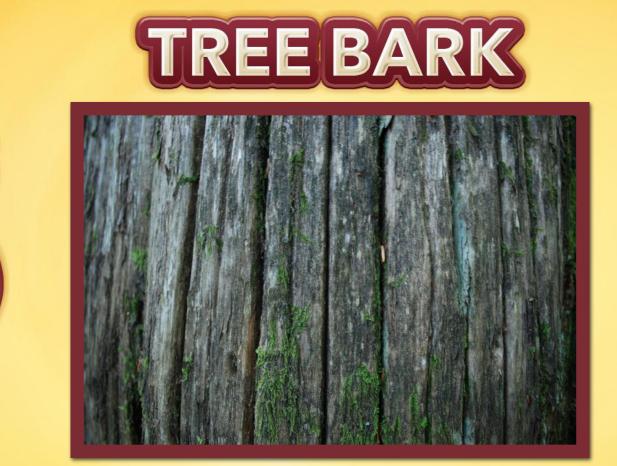












YES





























































































CONNECTING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

L.U.V.E.
Listen
Understand
Validate
Empathize

CONNECTING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

ATTUNEMENT

- "I see you"
- "I hear you"
- "I understand how hard this must be for you"
- "I am honored to walk alongside you in this journey"



THE ART OF ASKING QUESTIONS

Why asking good questions is essential for multigenerational connection

- Questions are personal
- Questions provoke thought
- Questions create community
- Questions draw out wisdom
- Questions reveal character
- Questions spark more questions
- Questions lead to undiscovered places
- Questions express humility





Look over the tips for asking better questions, Discuss with your table which 2 you think you already execute well, and which 2 you would like to further develop.



WHEN YOU FIRST THOUGHT OF YOUNG GENERATIONS,

REMEMBER THOSE **FIRST 5 WORDS** THAT CAME TO MIND?

How might we use curiosity to understand and connect with younger generations and change how we view them?



How might God use our connection with other generations to build His kingdom?

Discuss at your table...



LET'S SPARK A CONNECTION NOW!



The act of <u>consecration</u> is "repairing the wiring," the first steps before God's protection and provision can flow. It is a fresh act of dedication – deliberately and intentionally to Jesus, bringing it fully into His kingdom and His rule.



Lord, Jesus, I bring the full work of Christ between me and every young person, and I allow only the love of God and only the Spirit of God between us.

Consecrate, set aside and repair the wiring between me and all the young people you present in my life!