

## July 28 Sermon Resources

### Generation Z Values

1. Intentional engagement
2. Diversity/multi-racial/multi-cultural
3. Technology
4. Tolerance
5. Radical individuality
6. Freedom of speech
7. Hyper-accessibility of content on culture
8. Hyper-technologically adept to connectivity
9. Being listened to/respected/loved
10. Spirituality/mysticism/cosmology
11. Social justice
12. TED Talks and coffee
13. Activism
14. Relationships and friendships
15. Strategic ambition
16. Passion and purpose
17. Dialogue
18. Belief systems/worldviews
19. Family structure
20. Creativity/art/human potential

### Generation Z Struggles

1. Multiple ideologies
2. Multiple worldviews
3. Emotionally traumatized and erratic (social/emotional awareness over logical thinking)
4. Subjectivity vs. objectivity ("how to think"- sound thinking)
5. Morality, truth
6. Spiritual satisfaction
7. Multiple denominations/religious confusion
8. Biblical illiteracy
9. Passionless relationship/collaboration with church
10. Dissatisfied leadership or leaderless
11. Identity/security/acceptance/love
12. Hyper-sexualized content, culture, and accessibility
13. Hopelessness
14. Broken family structure
15. Losing innocence/growing up faster
16. Education/student loans
17. Passionless relationship with Jesus Christ
18. Hyper-connected; "always on"
19. Gray areas
20. Authority

## How to Reach Generation Z

1. Love God passionately
2. Mentorship/Discipleship
3. Faith modeling in the church and outside of the church-building
4. Testimony
5. Family revival
6. Apologetics teaching and graceful follow-up
7. Cultivate culture of invitation and hospitality
8. Ownership of church servanthood and collaborative worship
9. Celebration of God, his will, his character, his works, and his kingdom
10. Simple daily-life worship
11. Contentment
12. Faith, hope, love (1 Corinthians 13)

## Practical Approaches to Reach Generation Z (Gospel Coalition Adapted)

1. Move from the assumption that your audience is biblically literate.
2. Developmental approach to ministry (EX: Finances, relationships, emotional health, faith, work, family, enemies, hobbies, etc.).
3. Provide a craving for dialogue-oriented relational discipleship in relationships ...make sufficient time for it.
4. Provide apologetic and theological teaching without sacrificing hospitality and meeting together.
5. Define basic terms biblically (Ex: What is the difference between shame and guilt? Faith and grace? Righteousness and redemption? Sin and forgiveness?).
6. Courageously reach out to speak the gospel in word and deed.
7. Pray for new opportunities to be involved in the church and outside of the church building.
8. Go where the younger generation is, schedule a meal with them, and love them!
9. Acknowledge, listen, engage, and be intentional with building bridges rather than burning bridges with Generation Z.
10. Serve this generation with the intent as Christ would. Find 1-3 younger generation individuals and mentor them through life's trials and joys.

## Resources to Help

1. *Meet Generation Z: Understanding and Reaching the New Post-Christian World* by James Emery White
2. *iGen: Why Today's Super-Connected Kids Are Growing Up Less Rebellious, More Tolerant, Less Happy-And Completely Unprepared For Adulthood-And What That Means For The Rest Of Us* by Jean Twenge
3. *The Coddling of the American Mind* by Greg Lukianoff and Jonathan Haidt
4. *American Girls: Social Media and the Secret Lives of Teenagers* by Nancy Jo Scales
5. *So The Next Generation Will Know: Preparing Young Christians for a Challenging World* by Sean McDowell and J. Warner Wallace
6. *The Tech-Wise Family* by Andy Crouch
7. *Give Them Grace* by Elise Ann Fitzpatrick and Jessica Thompson

8. *Parenting: 14 Gospel Principles That Can Radically Change Your Family* by Paul David Tripp
9. *Growing With: Every Parent's Guide to Helping Teenagers and Young Adults Thrive in Their Faith, Family, and Future* by Kara Powell and Steven Argue
10. *Barna Trends 2018: What's New and What's Next at the Intersection of Faith and Culture* by Barna Group
11. *Churchless: Understanding Today's Unchurched and How to Connect with Them* by George Barna and David Kinnaman
12. *The Rise of the Nones: Understanding and Reaching the Religiously Unaffiliated* by James Emery White

Biggest Struggles/Obstacles in Reaching Generation Z Within the Church:

1. Apathy
2. Lack of humility
3. Performance-driven
4. Distracted
5. Passover mindset.... "Someone else will handle it"
6. Discipline and faith
7. Victim mentality/no ownership
8. Priorities/idols
9. Generational carryover
10. Lack of understanding of sin
11. Moralism
12. Narcissistic moralism
13. Lack of understanding of grace
14. Lack of understanding with contentment
15. Lack of passion and dependence on prayer

Specific Questions Generation Z Ask

- Question: Who am I?
- Question: Whose am I?
- Question: Where am I going?
- Question: What is my purpose?
- Question: Why am I here?
- Question: Who is God?
- Question: Am I loved?
- Question: Am I safe/secure?
- Question: Am I accepted?
- Question: Am I wanted/desired?