

## Generations- Understanding why we don't understand

### "Silent" generation

- ❖ Born:
  - 1930s and 1940s
- ❖ Age now:
  - Mid 50s to 70 years old
- ❖ Critical Influences during Youth
  - Great Depression
  - World War II

### *Core values*

- ❖ Dedication
- ❖ Duty before pleasure
- ❖ Adherence to rules
- ❖ Hard work
- ❖ Law and order
- ❖ Respect for position
- ❖ Cautious
- ❖ Delayed reward
- ❖ Sacrifice
- ❖ Conformity
- ❖ Modesty
- ❖ Patience
- ❖ Intolerance
- ❖ Frugal

### *Church and Education*

- ❖ Quiet and reverent
- ❖ The "Sanctuary"
- ❖ Focused on maintaining traditions
- ❖ Learning requires quiet students
- ❖ Teaching is about giving information
- ❖ Wisdom and experience
- ❖ Time and energy

### "Boomers"

- ❖ Born:
  - 1950s and 1960s
- ❖ Age now:
  - Mid 30s to mid 50s
- ❖ Critical Influences during Youth
  - Relative wealth and freedom
  - Beginning of the "empowered individual"
  - National asset building

### ***Core values***

- ❖ Idealism
- ❖ Image
- ❖ Optimism
- ❖ Team orientation
- ❖ Personal growth
- ❖ Personal gratification
- ❖ Group together by similarity of belief
- ❖ Media savvy
- ❖ Excellence
- ❖ Youth
- ❖ Work
- ❖ Involvement
- ❖ Health
- ❖ Wellness
- ❖ Nostalgia

### ***Church and Education***

- ❖ Bigger is better
- ❖ Excellence
- ❖ Personality and image
- ❖ Pop style worship- Hillsongs, Vineyard etc.
- ❖ Bosberaads and consultants - “guru” hunt
- ❖ The teacher is the expert
  - Students are learning when they listen and remember
- ❖ Vision, leadership and passion

### **“Generation X”**

- ❖ Born:
  - 1970s and 1980s
- ❖ Age now:
  - Mid teens to early 30s
- ❖ Critical Influences during Youth:
  - Social turmoil
  - Information revolution
  - Globalisation and television

### ***Core values***

- ❖ Change
- ❖ Choice
- ❖ Global awareness
- ❖ Techno-literacy
- ❖ Individualism/  
Loneliness
- ❖ Lifelong learning
- ❖ Immediate gratification
- ❖ Survivors
- ❖ Informality

- ❖ Whiners
- ❖ Thrill seekers
- ❖ “Experiencers”
- ❖ Pragmatism
- ❖ Self-reliance
- ❖ Diversity

### ***Church and Education***

- ❖ Relationships and small groups
- ❖ Alternative – “do something different every week”
- ❖ Change required
- ❖ Short-term commitments
- ❖ They love stories
- ❖ They learn by experiencing and discovering
- ❖ Respect is earned

### **“Millennial” Generation**

- ❖ Born:
  - 1990s and 2000s
- ❖ Age now:
  - 0 to mid teens
- ❖ Critical Influences during Youth
  - Global village and the Internet
  - Reconstruction & the protection of children

### ***Core values***

- ❖ Optimism
- ❖ Confidence
- ❖ Sociability
- ❖ Street smart
- ❖ Diversity
- ❖ Conformity
- ❖ Networkers
- ❖ Civic duty
- ❖ Achievement
- ❖ Morality
- ❖ Naiveté
- ❖ Change
- ❖ Techno-savvy
- ❖ Global citizens

### ***Church and Education***

- ❖ Ministry Involvement – “use me”
- ❖ Multi-media, multi-layered communication
- ❖ Multi-tasking
- ❖ Bad attention “span”- great attention “scope”
- ❖ Prefer interactive learning, with peers

- ❖ Need integrated approach
- ❖ Dynamic and inspirational leaders
- ❖ The next wave of new ideas and approaches

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