Elevating Your Church through Generations

This class is designed to share different age groups churches should target and prioritize ministries to in order to connect with as many generations as possible.

I. Classifications of Generations

Listed below is a common breakdown of seven living generations.

| 1. | Greatest Generation | - Born 1901-1924. |
|----|---------------------|-------------------|
| | | |

- 2. Silent Generation Born 1925-1945.
- 3. **Baby Boomers** Born 1946-1964.
- 4. **Generation X** Born 1965-1980.
- 5. <u>Millenials</u> Born 1981-1996.
- 6. <u>Generation Z</u> Born 1997-2012.
- 7. Generation Alpha Born 2013-2025.

II. Information about Generations

Listed below are specific facts regarding the seven living generations.

- Being very <u>Communal</u> is a way to describe the <u>Greatest Generation</u>.
 Acts 4:32 "All the believers were united in heart and mind. And they felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had." (NLT)
- 2. Being very Loyal is a way to describe the Silent Generation.

I Samuel 22:14

"Your Majesty, none of your officers is more loyal than David!" Ahimelech replied. "He's your son-in-law and the captain of your bodyguard. Everyone in your family respects him." (CEV)

3. Being very <u>Individual</u> is a way to describe the <u>Baby Boomers</u>.

Ecclesiastes 8:15

"So I decided it was more important to enjoy life. The best that people can do here on earth is to eat, drink, and enjoy life, because these joys will help them do the hard work God gives them here on earth." (NCV)

4. Being very <u>Technological</u> is a way to describe the <u>Generation X</u>. I Kings 10:23

"So King Solomon became richer and wiser than any other king on earth." (NLT)

5. Being very <u>Entrepreneurial</u> is a way to describe the <u>Millenials</u>. Ruth 2:3 "So Ruth went out to gather grain behind the harvesters. And as it happened, she

"So Ruth went out to gather grain behind the harvesters. And as it happened, she found herself working in a field that belonged to Boaz, the relative of her father-inlaw, Elimelech." (NLT)

6. Being very <u>Digital</u> is a way to describe the <u>Generation Z</u>.

Luke 16:8

"And the lord commended the unjust steward, because he had done wisely: for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light." (KJV)

7. Being very <u>Non-Traditional</u> is a way to describe the <u>Generation Alpha</u>.

Galatians 2:14

"When I saw that they were not following the truth of the gospel message, I said to Peter in front of all the others, "Since you, a Jew by birth, have discarded the Jewish laws and are living like a Gentile, why are you now trying to make these Gentiles follow the Jewish traditions?" (NLT)

III. Ministration to Generations

Listed below are activities which churches can offer that will meet the needs of crossgenerations.

1. Churches can offer <u>Dialogue Sessions</u> to meet the needs of cross-generations.

I Timothy 5:1-2

"Never speak harshly to an older man, but appeal to him respectfully as you would to your own father. Talk to younger men as you would to your own brothers. 2)Treat older women as you would your mother and treat younger women with all purity as you would your own sisters." (NLT)

- Chat N Chews
- Mentor groups
- Rites of Passage Programs

2. Churches can offer <u>Game Nights</u> cross-generations.

Matthew 11:16

"To what can I compare this generation? It is like children playing a game in the public square. They complain to their friends," (NLT)

- Chess Competition
- Home Visits
- Spades Tournament

Churches can offer <u>Home Visits</u> to meet the needs of cross-generations. Nehemiah 6:10

"Later I went to visit Shemaiah son of Delaiah and grandson of Mehetabel, who was confined to his home. He said, "Let us meet together inside the Temple of God and bolt the doors shut. Your enemies are coming to kill you tonight." (NLT)

- Administer Communion
- Meal Delivery
- Yard Maintenance
- 4. Churches can offer <u>Service Projects</u> to meet the needs of cross-generations.

I Chronicles 25:8

"Everyone threw lots to choose the time his family was to serve at the Temple. The young and the old, the teacher and the student, had to throw lots." (NCV)

- Home Cleanings
- Park Beautification
- School Readings
- 5. Churches can offer **Small Groups** to meet the needs of cross-generations.

Titus 2:2-3

"Teach the older men to exercise self-control, to be worthy of respect, and to live wisely. They must have sound faith and be filled with love and patience. 3) Similarly, teach the older women to live in a way that honors God. They must not slander others or be heavy drinkers. Instead, they should teach others what is good." (NLT)

- Parenting Partners
- Paul 2 Timothy (Youth Discipleship)
- Woman 2 Woman

6. Churches can offer <u>Study Classes</u> cross-generations.

Titus 2:6-7

"In the same way, encourage the young men to live wisely. 7) And you yourself must be an example to them by doing good works of every kind. Let everything you do reflect the integrity and seriousness of your teaching." (NLT)

- Computer Literacy
- Homework Helpers
- Toastmasters
- 7. Churches can offer <u>Worship Services</u> to meet the needs of cross-generations.

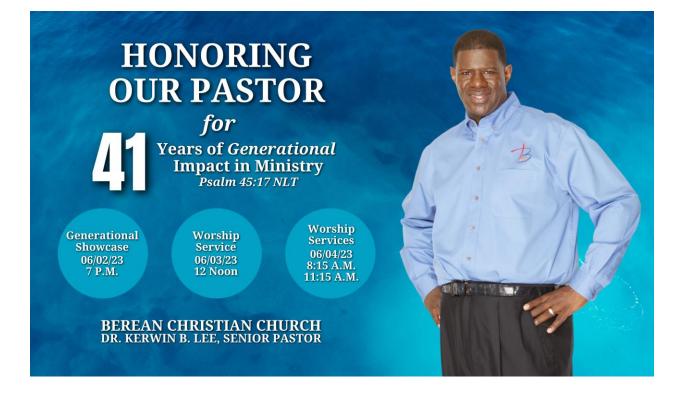
Deuteronomy 31:12-13

"Everyone must come—men, women, children, and even the foreigners who live in your towns. And each new generation will listen and learn to worship the Lord their God with fear and trembling and to do exactly what is said in God's Law." (CEV)

- Back 2 School Prayers
- Foot Washings
- Revivals

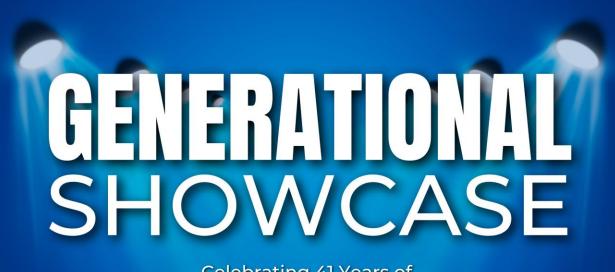
Additional Resources

- 1. Communicating With Different Generations In Ministry https://ministryanswers.com/christian-beliefs/communicating-with-differentgenerations-in-ministry/
- 2. Engaging Generation Z: Raising the Bar for Youth Ministry By Tim McKnight
- 3. Connecting Generations In The Church https://women.lifeway.com/2022/04/21/connecting-generations-in-the-church/
- 4. Ministering Across Generations: A Conversation with Josue Rubio **By Chris Colvin**
- One Church, Four Generations: Understanding and Reaching All Ages in Your Church By Gary L. McIntosh



Please wear your corresponding color to Worship on June 3rd and/or June 4th!





Celebrating 41 Years of Dr. Kerwin B. Lee's *Generational Impact* in Ministry

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| SILENT GENERATION | RED HOTS | 1925 |
|-------------------|-----------------|------|
| BABY BOOMERS | CANDY NECKLACE | 1958 |
| GENERATION X | POP ROCKS | 1975 |
| MILLENIALS | BIG LEAGUE CHEW | 1980 |
| GENERATION Z | BABY BOTTLE POP | 1998 |
| GENERATION ALPHA | | |

Your Presence Has Been A Treat, Enjoy Something Sweet "Taste And See That Lord is Good" *Psalm 34:8a*