

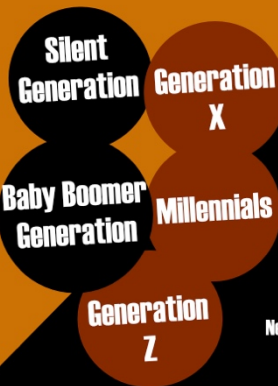


NEW COVENANT CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY

PART I

"WORKING TOGETHER; BUILDING THE BODY"



SUMMER WORKSHOP & TRAINING SERIES
FRIDAY AUGUST 31ST, 2018 - 7:30PM
PASTOR DEMETRIUS A. CHESTER, FACILITATOR

New Covenant Church of God in Christ 4264 - 15th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55407
Bishop Fred W. Washington, Sr. Pastor
www.nccogic.org

NEW COVENANT CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST
FRIDAY NIGHT WORKSHOP/TRAINING
FRIDAY, AUGUST 31st, 2018

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY – PART I

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Intergenerational Ministry – Part I

INTRODUCTION

*“From whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”
~Ephesians 4:16*

The book of Ephesians teaches that God created each person with specific and diverse gifts. We are the body of Christ, equipped and called to follow Christ’s example. When each part of the body is working properly the body grows and builds “itself up in love” (Ephesians 4:15-16). We are strengthened in our ministry when all people use their gifts and participate in God’s work for the upbuilding of the body of Christ.

It is no surprise that Sunday after Sunday we gather for our worship services only to scatter and separate by age. Multiple generations throughout the building gather to worship, fellowship, and grow. Each generation although unique and different in its own way has a part and purpose within the body of Christ.

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRY

In the book of Psalms, there are references to the passing of faith from one generation to another. These include Psalm 145:4, “One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts,” and Psalm 78 where the importance of testifying about God’s works to the next generation so they would remain in the faith and not turn away is emphasized.

In the New Testament, Jesus modeled this inclusion of all generations and specifically children throughout his ministry. He told his followers that welcoming a child into their midst was akin to welcoming him and the one who sent him (see Matthew 10:42; Matthew 11:25-26; Matthew 18:2-6, Matthew 18:10; Matthew 19:13-14; Matthew 21:16; Mark 10:13-16; Luke 9:46-48).

In the epistles, Paul writes to the churches and asks for the letters to be read aloud to the gathered community. In them, he specifically addresses a wide range of generations, including children (such as Ephesians 6:1-4; Colossians 3:20).

It’s safe to assume that he mentions all the generations because he expected them to be there to hear what he had to say. Intergenerational ministry and generational discipleship are found in Scripture. The idea of having all generations interacting within a community of faith isn’t a new one.



THE MILLENNIAL GENERATION

What goes through your mind when you hear the term Millennial? Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Periscope, Snapchat, and other social networking platforms may be one. This generation born between the years of 1981-1996 grew up in an electronic-filled and increasingly online and social networked world. The overly confident generation some may know them as. While confidence is a positive trait this generations confidence has been argued to spill over into the realms of entitlement and narcissism. However not all millennials are narcissistic, selfish, or lazy. In fact not all millennials want to throw away past traditions and take over. Most want an opportunity to be heard, associated, and valued and incorporated.

THE WORLD OF TECHNOLOGY

It is without a doubt that the millennial generation is “connected.” With cellphones, laptops, tablets, and social media, finding a millennial without one of these things maybe a tough task to complete. Our world and culture are without a doubt changing, technology has become the leading marketing, advertising, and strategic way to reach not only millennials but other various people and generations. As businesses grow and utilize technology the church has also grown and began to use various methods of technology. Live steaming, social networking, online giving, and more. Millennials can be a value-added addition to your ministry in helping setup and maintain your churches media, and social networking capabilities.

STRENGTHS OF THE MILLENNIAL GENERATION

- Most Tech Savvy
- Enthusiastic/Charisma
- Optimistic
- Collaborative
- Innovative

WORKING TOGETHER BUILDING THE BODY

As stated earlier each generation is unique in its own way. With strengths and weaknesses there is no perfect generation. But it takes several generations, gifts, and talents to build the body of Christ. We must love, respect, and understand each generation and work together. Every person and generation have a place in the body of Christ. Let’s work together and build the body!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1.) How has your opinion of the Millennial generation changed after this workshop?**
- 2.) How can the church better work together across generations to build the body of Christ?**



3.) Is intergenerational ministry important? Why?

4.) Does your church have multiple generations? How do they work together?

Notes

Lined area for taking notes.

Sources

Giang, Vivian. "Here Are The Strengths And Weaknesses Of Millennials, Gen X, And Boomers." Business Insider, Business Insider, 9 Sept. 2013, www.businessinsider.com/how-millennials-gen-x-and-boomers-shape-the-workplace-2013-9.

Embree, Christina. "What the Bible Says About Intergenerational Ministry - EthicsDaily." EthicsDaily.com, 2 July 2018, www.ethicsdaily.com/what-the-bible-says-about-intergenerational-ministry-cms-23671/.

