North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists:

Welcome & Introductions - Vandeon Griffin

YI #19.01 Reaching Gen Z

Dr. Adam Fenner presented...

Three critical issues to realize about GenZ:

- 1. Most unique
- 2. Most influential
- 3. Evangelism + Innovation

Smart phones have changed the world, more than anything else in the last 20 years. The first thing you do in the morning is to check your phone. This is the new generational norm.

A four year old now gets to look in his dads eyes in the morning, no matter where he is. Daily discourse has changed because of the tools we now have to communicate.

What does the Jetson's introduction predict about the future?

Answers: Flying, fast paced, intact family, going to a bricks and mortar school, hard currency, wife asking her husband for money, white family, Jane went to a mall to shop.

This is suppose to be about the future, but GenZ will see it as the past. GenZ is 26% of the population and 40% of those who are spending. They are the most diverse generation in the history of USA. They don't see diversity unless it is absent.

My son will never remember a time before there was a black president, gay marriage, and smart phones.

55% under 18 would rather buy clothes on line and 53% would rather buy books online. What makes you think they want to get up and go to church? We see tech as a tool, they see it as reality. This includes dating, studying, entertainment, communication, reading the Bible, recipes, cooking, eating, and sex.

70% of GenZ are watching 2 hours or more of Youtube a day. They process more information than any previous generation. They quickly discard things that are not relevant to them. Their decisions are instantaneous. They prefer less public social media and chose instead social media interaction with a small group friends. One quarter of 13-17 year olds left FB last year. Instagram and TikTok is where they are now. They prefer to make movies than watch pro stuff. They don't watch main stream media.

They are worried about success. 57% prefer to save rather than spend.

They are having less sex, less drinking, less dating, lower employment rates, and less real contact.

Lawn mower parents cut down all the problems so the child only walks on cut grass. This is harming the generation as they cannot cope with any resistance. Their children can't work, can't date, because it's too hard. We need challenge and pain to grow, but parents are not allowing that to happen. Read "Coddling the American Mind."

What does this mean for the church? GenZ is the least religious generation ever. Double the atheist rate at 16%. 28% have never attended a religious

Minutes 2.26.20

> **NAD Youth Advisory** Dallas, TX

9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Officers

Chair - Vandeon Griffin, NAD Rec. Secretary - Glen Milam, NAD Ex-officio - Armando Miranda Jr.,

Ex-officio - Tracy Wood, NAD Ex-officio - Bonita Shields, NAD

Attendees

Alcon, Javier Archbold, Vanston Baffi, Anthony Bisap, Jackie Campos, Michael Case, Steve Casey, Todd Clairmont, Orien Coneff, Kathy Beagles Craig, David Cross, Esther Cruz, Manny Cruz, Samuel Deluy, Magdala Dooley, Kiefer Fajardo, Eliasib Floyd, Tim Gomez, Ada Grundy, Marc Gutierrez, Daniel Gutierrez, Yissury Hill, Chris Hill, Chuck Hill, Don Hill, Randy Intong, Selvin Echavez Jean Baptiste, Eric Jean-Pierre, Lyns Johnson, Eric Lambert, Deanna Lashier, Nadine Leacock, Gerome Lewis, Chester

Manluera, Ariel

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Martin, Edward Martin, Edwin Martin, Edwin McKenzie, David Mine, Carl Moody, Helvis Morrow, Glen Ortega, Daniel Perez, Pedro Posthumus, Azviel Prangle, Beverly Ridley, Jason Rogers, Karsten Rogers, Ken Rojas, Lydia Salazar, David Scott, John Segar, Denison Sharp, A. Malaika Silva, Nelson Stewart, Stephen Stewart, Stephen Tenorio, Paulo Vasquez, Janeth Velez, Daniel Vogler, Paula Wade, Roger Watson, Hermia Whitlow, Dan

Ziesmer, Becky

service. 8% have a religious role model, which means 92% don't have one. 35% are completely religiously unaffiliated.

How do you reach them?

- 1. Communicate one-to-one via social media. Lectures don't reach them.
- 2. Urban leaders, we need to meet them where they are
- 3. Encourage them to minister to each other.
- 4. Need rich imagery and stories
- 5. Live stream your events, with ways to interact with it.
- 6. Constantly innovate
- Social Gospel: Obsessed with authenticity. They want action, not words.
- 8. Bring food: It has to be good. They have so many other options.
- 9. Face-to-face contact is well received, even though they won't look you in the eye.
- 10. Be a student of their culture. Don't be rude. Don't talk down to them.

YI #19.02 Preaching to Generation Listen

Michael Polite presented...

Example: All teeth know how to do, is to stay close. If one tooth goes array, all the other teeth go out of alignment. We desire connectedness. It is our loneliness that causes us to sin, as we seek closeness. The gospel is like shape memory wire like that used in orthodontia. It moves us to where we were intended to be. Then we have to retain it, for our teeth would be happy to return to where they started. We have to retain it every day. That is the Gospel of Jesus. He will change us, then He will retain us.

IT GAB preaching model: Five actions to improve the likelihood of GenZ listening to a revelation of God's character, God's love and God's power.

- 1. Intrigue: Begin your message with a widely recognizable, concrete element. This will serve as your "Trojan Horse," the unassuming element that will bring down the cognitive defenses of the listener. GenZ has a natural wall against religion.
- 2. Transition: Build a bridge between the point of intrigue and your Spiritual concept: make a connection that the listener didn't expect; they should 'all-of-the-sudden' find themselves in a moment of Spiritual interest.
- 3. Ground: Now that you have the listener's interest, anchor them to the word of God, practically guide them through the scriptures-lead them into a Biblical understanding that is connected to the initial point of entry. GenZ is interesting in engaging spiritual books, be they dark or light. Always go back to the point of intrigue to tie them to the truth.
- 4. Apply: Take the listener beyond an intellectual understanding of the Spiritual concept; help them integrate the lesson in to their daily living; show them how the lesson can improve their understanding of God, themselves, others, or their world. Tangents destroy the flow. Stay on target. In our example, God is not embarrassed by our crookedness.
- 5. Blessing: Speak a Biblically-based blessing over your listeners; use proactive and prophetic language to declare how the listener's life will shift because God loves them, God is with them, God hears them, and God will

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answer them. • Before we talk, we should be able to demonstrate what we are talking about. Use proactive and prophetic language.

Is there a sweet spot on message length. No. Length does not matter. Its about the level of Spirit being released. You cannot be ministering in fear.

YI #19.03 A problem, a principle, an initiative

Roger Hernandez presented...

Introducing an initiative to reach Hispanic young adults. They are the hyphen, not totally Hispanic, but not totally American.

Gen7:

- 1. Recession
- 2. WiFi
- 3. Multi-Racial
- 4. Sex (it's a bigger sin not to recycle than to watch
- 5. Post-Christian

MiGPS3 = Mission Initiative Groups/Purpose/Service

www.migps3.com has lesson plans in English as well as Spanish.

We do everything we can to push people away, and they still get baptized.

YI #19.04 Mental Health Initiative

Rachel Scribner presented...

One fifth of those in a room have a diagnosable anxiety disorder, and with teens its one quarter. 36% of those are not getting treatment.

Initiative Goals

- 1. Create a set of resources targeted to older youth and young adults, but usable for a broad audience.
- 2. Information is based in science, with a Christian perspective.
- 3. Resources can be used for self-help as well as by anyone who would like to be better informed.

Common Themes

- 1. Accurate scientific information
- 2. Devotional introduction with Biblical examples
- 3. Non-judgemental, comforting tone
- 4. Resources and encouragement to seek help, with a discussion of treatment option and availability.

Current documents

Issue 1 is about depression. Description, questionnaire, information, explanation of recovery

- Issue 2 is about anxiety. Description, questionnaire, information, explanation of management
- Issue 3 is about suicide. Immediate help then more information, and making a personal safety plan. There is also advice for friends and family that is not in second person format.
- Issue 4 is about getting help and treatment. It shares steps for seeking help, explains types of therapy, medications, and self-help steps.
- Issue 5 is about behavioral strategies and recovery tools. It talks about exercise (it's a hard sell, but worth it), strategies for better sleep, and other advice on diet, routine, and doing things you enjoy.
- Issue 6 is about Cognitive Strategies. It shares how to identify and confront negative thoughts, strategies to calm yourself, mindfulness techniques, and examples of using "and" rather than "but".
- Issue 7 is about Maintaining and staying healthy. It encourages to keep doing what you are doing, find community, finding support groups, and how to be gentle with yourself.

YA 2020.01 Mental Health Initiative

Voted: To affirm this project and move forward with it and with podcast versions as well.

Y&YAExA 2020.10 Voted to accept the new resources for the Mental Health Inititiave

YI #19.05 Youth Sabbath School

Steve Case presented...

We are providing resources for teaching and leading Youth Sabbath School, and for the training of Youth Sabbath School leaders.

Visit YouthSabbathSchoolIdeas.org This resource if free

The primary target group is Sabbath School groups with 10 or less members.

Dr. Kathy Beagles shared the current development status. She noted that the Cornerstone Connections are based on an abbreviated version of the Conflict of the Ages Series.

Ideas can be sent to youthsabbathschoolideas@gmail.

In the last three years, six unions have hosted Youth SS Ignite training events. The next event will be held at the 2020 Playbook in September. In 2021 it will be offered at part of the United Youth Congress.

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Ignite stands for:

- Initiate (Start/ Revive SS
- Give and Take (Ideas and Resources
- Need (Ways to increase participation)
- Involve (How to start discussions)
- Thrive (Mentoring Youth to Lead)
- Express (Summary & commitment)

Steve used "PollEverywhere" to survey the group.

The big challenge is that Conferences don't have lists of Youth SS leaders.

YI #19.05 AdventSource report

Brad Forbes presented...

Go to AdventSource and Ministry+, download the *Quickstart Guide*. It's being translated in Spanish and French for the fall.

We are creating a Youth Ministries Certification for Introduction to Youth Ministries. Tim Floyd is the lead on this project. It will continue to be developed. It will be available for free

YA 2020.01 AdventSource report.

Voted: To receive the report.