

Passion

Part 1: Our Passions...

Proverbs 4.1-3 *“Children, hear the instruction of a father and apply yourself to understand, for I give you good doctrine, don’t forsake it... for I was my father’s son, tender and beloved by my mother... He taught me and said, retain my words in your heart, keep my commandments and live!”*

Perfect example of trans-generational ministry!

Two Generations Down ministry is one of our Passions... It’s a big deal here at Life Church... Changed the way we lived almost 20 years ago... Realized that we who were older, safe, secure in faith, going nowhere else... Had to be paving the way for the next generations...

Any church that isn’t looking, paving, paying the way for the next gen’s... Sealing the fate of the church group they had been part of... Past tense because that church is dying out... Committing spiritual suicide! Putting unknown people at risk!

When we say we are a two-gen down church... We mean much more than having a “vibrant” kids ministry... We mean we are specifically plowing the road for them to overcome their culture!

Specific Actions... Provide a place...Feed them on every level we can...Physical, mental, spiritual, social, recreational. **Let them see us week after week...**Let them develop a confidence that we are going to be there! **Listen to their words/hearts...Offer them opportunities to be prayed for, counseled!**

The world they are facing demands help beyond their years!

Their world... AP 1/31/14 Orono, Maine “Nicole” Maines, recently won an anti-discrimination case against his school for not letting him use the restroom of the gender he identifies with... He began identifying as a girl at 2... His father said, “all I ever wanted for my daughter was to be treated like her classmates.” The students cheered the ruling!

Growing up in a generation seeking normalization not accommodation!

2/23/14, NYDN, Two five year olds found naked together in the school bathroom... Said they were “having sex...” South Jersey Teacher reports the incident to her Supervisor... Suspended w/pay! Then the school teacher reportedly said the kids were fully clothed/still suspended... No one so far understands the action taken by the school!

A generation growing up without the normal adult protection!

Daytona Beach, FL, 3/5/14 Pregnant mother drives her minivan with her three children into the surf on a Florida beach... “Help us, my mom is trying to kill us!” Rescued and taken into CPS custody. Grandmother’s comment: “all she had to do was ask for help!” As of Friday, mother charged with attempted murder...

A generation growing up without natural parental affection!

South Los Angeles, 3/6/14, Two and three years old boys “hungry and filthy” when found... Mother arrested after picture shown on local news... Boys w/CPS... (along with other 6 brothers and sisters) Dalai Lama opens congressional session with prayer “to my god and any others...” 1st Marijuana ads break on TV/NJ.

A generation coming up without many boundaries!

Thousands of these stories regarding the breakdown of family, morals and hopeful futures! The Church is going to be one of the major strong—holds for the younger generations! If we are there!

Are you there? This is what we are about! Bringing the kingdom of God to those in need! You and I are “exploring” the depths of the kingdom... Kids are the ones who need to “discover” it! Battle has been bro’t down to their level!

You are not part of a church that has a vibrant children’s ministry... You are part of a church establishing a vital link to God for two generations... You are the church, anchored, to reach out to children in crisis... with answers!

If we are there!