

observation

- **Judges 2:10 -**

“And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the Lord or the work that he had done for Israel.”

we know...

- **there’s a chasm between our youth and God.** _____ - _____% of students are abandoning their faith in their collegiate years - only 20% come back to the Church.
- **children are tender for the Gospel.** kids between the ages of ____ - ____ are 5 times *more likely to accept Jesus Christ as savior* than any other time in their lives.
- _____ **reach students the best.** yet _____% don’t share their faith because they don’t feel equipped.

tweens - the next great generation

- children ages _____ - _____ are called “tweens”. there are almost _____ million tweens in the US today.
- these students are in between childhood and teenage years - transitioning through stages of cognitive and physical development.

what’s up with our kids?

- **kgoy - kids are getting** _____ .
 - targeted campaigns are establishing brand loyalty early on. young teens wield \$_____ billion in direct spending power and influence an additional \$_____ billion.
- **media bombardment** - young teens are taking in _____ hours of mass media per week.

satan’s strategy

- **we have a generation of “lost” kids** who don’t _____ Jesus, and a **generation of “christian”** kids who don’t _____ Jesus.
- **this generation of “lost” kids** don’t care about the _____ of God or for the _____ of God.
- **this generation of “christian” kids** is *OVER-ENTERTAINED* and *UNDER-CHALLENGED!*

motivating tweens as evangelists

- **overcoming the demotivator: *not saying what to say*** - they need to be equipped.
- **motivators:**
 - Christ as Lord, not just savior
 - help them see themselves as “_____” of the lost.
 - *tweens* love mastery / *tweens* love to be empowered

equipping tweens for evangelism

- **role models** - go to the Word, then to culture
 - we used Daniel: he _____ to obey God. he _____ and practiced God's Word regularly. he _____ godly friends. he _____ others to God.
- **Classroom tips:**
 - use any Bible Study time to ask the question: "how does this help me surrender to Christ or share my faith?"
 - use *prayer time* for evangelistic praying
 - key scripture memorization - they will retain what they memorize
 - practical training on sharing their testimony (not a "sin bragimony"; not 2 hours long)
 - practical training on sharing the Gospel with or without a tract

Books

George Barna, *Transforming Children in to Spiritual Champions - Why children should be your church's #1 priority*

Barry & Carol St. Clair, *Ignite the Fire - Kindling a passion for Christ in your kids*

Josh McDowell, *The Last Christian Generation - The crisis is real. The responsibility is ours.*

Ron Luce, *Battle Cry for a Generation - The fight to save America's youth*

Barbara Strauch, *The Primal Teen - What the New Discoveries About the Teenage Brain Tell Us About Our Kids*

Why Evangelism Training is So Important.

The Great Commission is not a request but a command for every believer to go and tell. If we wait until adulthood to begin training people to actively witness for Christ, chances are it will be too late. Now is the time, while people are young and hungry to learn and grow, to begin to motivate and train them to be living witnesses for Christ.

Publications

YouthWorker Journal, September-October 2006 Issue, "Bull's-Eye - Helping Kids Escape Advertising Attacks"

Barna Research Group, *What Teenagers Look for in a Church* - October 2007 / *Ups and Downs of Tween Life* - September 2006 / *Challenges Faced by Young People* - September 2007 / *A New Generation Expresses its Skepticism and Frustration with Christianity* - September 2007 / *Equipping Teens For Evangelism* - YouthPoll, July 2006

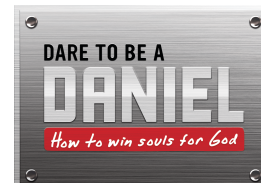
CBS News, Chicago Ill, *Tweens: A Hot Ticket* - September 2007

Other Reading:

Do Hard Things by Alex & Brett Harris, *Be the Change* by Zach Hunter, *UnChristian* by David Kinnaman & Gabe Lyons

Dare to Be a Daniel: Evangelism Training for Tweens

For more information, go to billygraham.org/d2bd. Be sure to stop by our booth!



Appendix: Tweens & Evangelism