

Sermon Summary Outline

Question: In every nation, on every continent, there is a people group who are most open, most responsive to the gospel. Who do you think that they are?

Question: 85% of the people in the world who make decisions to follow Jesus are between

- a) 4-14?
- b) 14-40? Or
- c) 40-104

To prevent the exodus of young people from church two issues have been identified as crucial.

1. That children and youth become part of the ministers in the church, ie learn to serve in and through the church and
2. That each young person has around 5 significant non family adult relationships within the church.

Matthew 19:13-17 Contemporary English Version (CEV)

¹³ Some people brought their children to Jesus, so that he could place his hands on them and pray for them. His disciples told the people to stop bothering him. ¹⁴ But Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and don't try to stop them!"

For further study in small groups

MIXER: If you went to church as a child, recall one significant non family adult who influenced your faith.

1. What has been your reactions and thoughts re the proposed vision so far?
2. Why is having so many mature senior members such an asset for the proposed vision?
3. Why does such a vision ultimately include and encourage us all?
4. Why does this vision require us to move from a consumer mindset of church to a serving view towards what we do in church?
5. Look at the article in the foyer “12 Reasons to Welcome Children into Church” or the web <http://sacraparental.com/2016/06/11/12-reasons-welcome-kids-church-tips-actually/> and discuss.
6. Talk about the 6 areas where you can have input over the next couple of months and share which one you have a passion for and skills to contribute to.
7. Pray for us as a church. While we can grab bits of insight and wisdom from various sources what God is leading us as a church to become is unique and a result of prayer. May His Kingdom come and His will be done in WCBC!

Great ideas and articles/ websites to help us prepare for what is ahead can be found in the little Green Baptist Union Booklet in the foyer. The key resource page is indicated by a post it sticker.

The best small group or leaders work books to help us prepare for the way ahead and to think differently are called “Growing Young” by Kara Powell, Baker Books and “The Church of all ages” by Howad Vanderwell, Alban Institute books.