LEADERSHIP LESSON #98: WHO ARE THESE TEENAGERS AND WHY AREN'T THEY LIKE ME? UNDERSTANDING TODAY'S TEEN

OUTLINE BY CYNTHIA WATTS

1. Characteristics of today’s teen are:
   a. Optimistic
   b. Idealistic
   c. Empowered
   d. Ambitious
   e. Traditional
   f. Confident
   g. Committed
   h. Passionate
   i. Team players

2. If we are trying to teach today’s teen the way previous generations were taught, we will lose them.

3. Names for this generation of teens are Generation Y, trophy kids, or Millennials. The name “trophy kids” comes from the practice of receiving a trophy for just participating in sports or activities, whether they win or not.

4. These teens are civic minded, rejecting the attitudes of the Baby Boomers and Generation X.

5. This generation is also sometimes referred to as the Boomerang Generation or Peter Pan Generation because of their possible penchant for delaying some of the rites of passage into adulthood longer than most generations before them, and because of a trend toward living with their parents for longer than recent generations.

6. A major event for Gen Y’ers is 9/11.

7. This generation of teenagers has a passion for experience.

8. They seek an active and accepting environment.

9. Eight of ten believe that they will reach their personal goals, find a good job and make enough money to do the things they want.

10. Only 8% believe they will be victims of terrorism.

11. Popular pieces of clothing include jeans, crocs, leggings, short skirts. (Allow the participants to offer their ideas. Try to include these items, too.)

12. Millennials are held to higher standards than some adults apply to themselves; they are a lot less violent, vulgar, and sexually charged than the teen culture older people are producing for them, and, over the next decade, they will entirely recast what it means to be young. According to some studies, Millennials could emerge as the next great generation.

13. Alcohol consumption, drug usage, pregnancy and homicide rates among teens are down from the previous generation.

14. An emphasis on family and religious values is returning, and sociologists are predicting a surge in younger marriages and bigger families.

15. Over 80% of active youth group members are nowhere to be found within a year after high school graduation. They are not bailing on Jesus and their faith, but bailing on the church. So using our time with them to develop relationships and leading them to understand the value of Bible study and worship in the church is urgent.
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1. Characteristics of today’s teen are:
   a. O_________________
   b. I_________________
   c. E_________________
   d. A_________________
   e. T_________________
   f. C_________________
   g. C_________________
   h. P_________________
   i. T_________________

2. If we are trying to teach today’s teen the way previous generations were taught, _____
   ________________ ____________.

3. Names for this generation of teens are ____________________, ____________________
   __________, or ____________________. The name “trophy kids” comes from the practice
   of receiving a trophy for just participating in sports or activities, whether they win or not.

4. These teens are ________________ ____________, rejecting the attitudes of the Baby Boomers
   and Generation X.

5. This generation is also sometimes referred to as the Boomerang Generation or Peter Pan
   Generation because of their possible penchant for ____________________, ____________________
   __________ longer than most generations before them, and because of a trend toward
   ________________ ____________ for longer than recent generations.

6. A major event for Gen Y’ers is ____________.

7. This generation of teenagers has a passion for ____________________.

8. They seek an ________________ and ________________ environment.

9. ________________ __________ believe that they will reach their personal goals, find a good
   job and make enough money to do the things they want.

10. Only ___% believe they will be victims of terrorism.

11. Popular pieces of clothing include ________________, ________________, ________________,
    _______________. (Allow the participants to offer their ideas. Try to include
    these items, too.)

12. Millennials are held to higher standards than some adults apply to themselves; they are a lot
    less ________________ and ________________ than the teen culture older people are producing for them, and, over the next decade, they will
    entirely recast what it means to be young. According to some studies, Millennials could
    emerge as the next ________________ ____________.

13. ________________ consumption, ________________, ________________, and
    ________________ among teens are down from the previous generation.

14. An emphasis on ________________ and ________________ is returning, and
    sociologists are predicting a surge in younger marriages and ________________ ____________.

15. Over ___% of active youth group members are nowhere to be found within a year after high
    school graduation. They are not bailing on Jesus and their faith, but bailing on the church. So
    using our time with them to develop relationships and leading them to understand the value
    of Bible study and worship in the church is urgent.