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Against All Odds
Part 5 The Missing Generation

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your small group’s goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so knock yourself out with the discussion questions but spend

70% - 80% of young people leave the church between the ages of 18-25

[Psalm 145:4]
One generation shall praise (speak of) Your works to another, And shall tell of Your mighty acts.

[Matthew 22:32]
“Have you not read what God said to you ?

‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’ He is not the God of the dead but of the living.”

[Hebrews 13:8]
“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

[Psalm 68:5-6]
A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling.
God sets the lonely in families, he leads out the prisoners with singing...

43% of children in the United States are fatherless

The results...

• Kids without fathers are more likely to end up in jail and struggle with substance abuse
• 63% of youth suicides are from fatherless homes
• 71% of high school dropouts do not have fathers
• 90% of homeless and runaway children come from fatherless homes
• 71% of pregnant teenagers lack a father

[1 Corinthians 4:15 NIV]
Even if you had ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.

[Judges 2:6-10]
After Joshua had dismissed the Israelites, they went to take possession of the land, each to their own inheritance.

7 And the Israelites served the LORD throughout the lifetime of Joshua and the leaders who outlived him—those who had seen all the great things the LORD had done for Israel.

8 Joshua son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died at the age of a hundred and ten. 9 And they buried him in the land of his inheritance, at Timnath Heres in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash.

10 After that generation died, another generation grew up who did not know the Lord nor did they remember the mighty things he had done.

DISCUSSION THOUGHTS

1. Did you leave the church as a young adult? What was it that caused you to leave?
2. Can you identify someone you are mentoring? Have you sought out a successor?
3. Did you have a mentor? Who were they and how did they impact your life?
4. What can you do this week to stand against the odds of our young adults leaving the church?
5. How can you encourage a young adult this week?
6. Are you willing to be a spiritual mother or father for your own children and for those without spiritual parents? What does that look like?
7. Have you identified the mantel God has placed on you so you can effectively pass it on?
8. How can you give someone a chance to spread their spiritual wings and give them a place to grow and thrive in their calling?