

I. The Ever-Changing World of Teenagers

A. Values

Materialism
Overscheduled lives
Intuitive, able to spot a fake
Great multi-taskers

B. The Digital Revolution

Teenagers spend 6 ½ hours a day with media =44 ½ hrs a week. Five ways media is revolutionizing youth culture:

1. How teenagers relate to others
2. Greater autonomy, less accountability
3. IMing and texting
4. Social networking and Twitter
5. Pornography

C. Family Life - Common themes

Divorce
Abandonment
Separation
Abuse

D. Depression and disorders

Anorexia and bulimia
Cutting

II. Jesus - Willing to Enter Their World

Mark 5:1- 21. Kids need caring adults who are willing to pull their boat up onto their shore
(1 Thessalonians 2:8)

Don't treat the symptoms without addressing the real issue.
Ask questions, then listen.
Equip.
Impart vision.

III. Practical ways to equip your teenager

1. Focus on the message, not the delivery system.
2. Learn how to teach your teenager to Biblically evaluate everything they hear and see.
The 3 D's- discover, digest, decide
3. Examine yourself. Pray, build your own foundation, watch your step, ask forgiveness
4. Have patience.
5. Be proactive.
6. Avoid extremes:
"run for your life!"
"I didn't hear anything, did you?"
7. Speak life into your child's life. Impart vision.

IV. The Vision - Matthew 5:13

- A. Salt—gives flavor, preserves
Redeeming our culture requires us to be IN the world, just like Christ showed us.
- B. Light—sharp contrast to darkness
A city on a hill, a beacon of hope
We are called to live in sharp contrast TO the world

V. Proverbs 22:6 Parents - Why should I "train my child up in the way he should go"?

Sacrifice= significance
A different set of priorities
They'll be ready when you're not there.
Relationship with Christ becomes a necessity, not an inconvenience.
Faith isn't boring.
Life has purpose.