

PRINCIPLES FOR BEING CHRISTIAN AND DONG CHURCH
FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

The Next Generation of Followers of Jesus: Children's and Youth Ministry

William D. Watley, New Seasons Press, All Rights Reserved.

Principle Six:

We must be intentional about young people's ministry, rather than developing it as an afterthought.

Christianity, a Youth Movement: A Different Paradigm

First Generation of Pillars of Traditional Judaism

Abraham, 75 years old

Noah, 500 years old

Moses, 80 years old

Next generation of leadership

Isaac, obedient son

Jacob and Esau, sibling rivalry

Joseph (resented by elder brothers)

Boy Samuel (mentored by old Eli)

Teenager David (resented and doubted because of youth by Father, King Saul, elder brothers)

First Generation of Christian Leadership

Jesus' mother Mary was young maiden (as distinct from Sarah)

Two of the Gospels include birth and childhood narratives of Jesus in their accounts:

Matthew 1-2

Luke 1-3

Jesus and followers were young adults

Place of children and youth in ministry and vision of Jesus

Jesus' view of children: Matthew 18: 1-7

(For Jesus to be able to call, rather than send for, a child, means children must have been around while he was ministering and teaching)

Jesus' ministry to children:

Matthew 19: 13-15

Epileptic boy (Luke 9: 37-42)

Daughter of Jairus (Luke 8: 40-48)

Nobleman's son (John 4: 46-54)

Daughter of Syrophenician woman (Mark 7: 24-30)

Children and the young in ministry of Jesus:

Boy with two fish and five loaves (John 6: 1-14)

Rich young ruler (Matthew 19: 16-22)

Other young people in the faith:

John Mark (Mark 14: 51; Acts 12: 12, 13: 13-114; 15: 36-41; II Timothy 4: 11)

Paul's nephew (Acts 23: 16-22)

From Young Adult and Youth Movement to Aging and Tired Saints

From Innovation to Institutionalism

From Outward Focus to Inward Maintenance

From Testimony to Tradition

From Radical to Reactionary

Reaction to Galileo

Reaction to Technology

From Revolutionary to Respectability

From Land Conquerors to Land Holders

From Challengers to Comfort

From Fire to Formality

From Power to Purse Strings

Moving Forward Reaching the Next Generation

An Example from Ed Young's Church in Dallas

Priority

Intentionality

Change

Technology

Innovation in worship

Age appropriate lessons and technology

Personnel

Money

Appearance

Time

Application

Stop

Look

Listen

The Powerful Position of Saint Philip

Facility

People

Yes We Can!!!

Refocus on the Family

The Blessing of Multi-generations

Telling our Story

Psalm 145: 4