

# OY Parent Night Fall 2021

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## **GENERATION Z**

Understanding the Current Generation of Youth

OY Parent Night  
October 10, 2021



# Reflection:

Before we jump into some research . . .

As parents what do you feel like your teens are:

**1. Really struggling with?**

**2. Thriving in?**



# Reflection: Playing Uno . . .

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**Builders/Silents/  
Traditionalists:  
(born 1925-1945)**

**Boomers:  
(born 1946-1964)**

**Xers:  
(born 1965-1981)**

**Millennials:  
(born 1982-1999)**

**Gen Z  
(born 2000-2015)**

**Which Generation are you?**



# Generational Differences:

## Xers:

(born 1965-1981)

- Skeptics/distrustful of institutions
- Latch-key-kids
- Resourceful
- Self-reliant
- Adaptive to change, flexible, and motivated
- Value balance between work and “life”
- Want to build a “portable career”

## Millennials:

(born 1982-1999)

- Reached adulthood differently
- Value:
  - Experience
  - Tolerance
  - Social justice
  - Cultural-awareness
  - Relationships
  - Education
  - Both community and individuality
- Skeptical of authority and absolutes
- Believe they can make a difference in the world

# Generational Differences:

## MILLENNIALS (1982-1999)

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## GENERATION Z (2000-2015)

- Self-focused (achievement oriented)
- Cynical, yet hopeful for the future
- Entrepreneurial
- Multi-taskers  
(multi-multi-multi-multi-multi-taskers)
- Technology-reliant and over-connected  
(dare we say, dependent) (5 screen multi-taskers)
- Build an Identity Online\*
- Fear of Missing Out (FOMO)
- Hyper-aware
- Private and lonely
- Anxious, Depressed, and Overcommitted
- Assume adults are oblivious (and most are)



So, what are they facing?



**Experiencing Jesus**



**Cultural Discernment**



**Meaningful Relationships**



**Vocational Discipleship**



**Countercultural Mission**

**What do we do about it?**

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