

Understanding the Culture of Our Day

Max Barnett

I. Introduction.

A. Text: I Chronicles 12:32.

B. As a result of the “baby boomer” generation, children became consumers and peers became leaders over parents.

C. The “baby busters” are religious, but they do not start with Christianity.

II. Ways to reach our culture.

A. Do workshops on some of the needs facing the culture: safety, putting together a will, substance abuse, etc.

B. Reach out to the older generations and make them a part of the church.

C. Reach out to the “baby boomers” by addressing needs resulting from divorce and by addressing the problem of loyalty to the church.

1. They need small groups.

2. They need visuals.

3. They need to be involved in doing the dirty work.

D. Reach out to the “baby busters” by recognizing the problems of information overload, immediate satisfaction, and entitlement.

1. They need to be treated as individuals not only as a group.

2. They need relationships.

3. They need to be involved.

4. They want the truth as it is.

5. They need to be addressed on the emotional level.

6. They have a respect for other people.

7. They need to be given a sense of control since they feel like that was taken away.

8. They need to be swayed from moral relativism.

Application questions:

1. How are the three generations generally different?

2. Why is it important to understand these generational differences?

3. What do you think is the biggest problem the church has in reaching out to the next generation? Explain.
