



Understanding Your NextGen Youth Audience

This tool is a fill-in-the-blank exercise to help NextGen leaders understand NextGen youth participants and how to relate to them. Possible answers are included.

Characterization of NextGen Youth

- They are _____ to _____ years old.
- They have _____ attention spans.
- They have a physical need for _____ —use it to your advantage!
- They want to know they have a _____ to share feelings and concerns.
- They want to be _____ and _____.
- They are all asking 3 basic questions:
 - _____ am I?
 - Do I _____?
 - Where do I _____ in?

Strategies for Teaching and Connecting

- Use the four Rs for effective teaching:

Be _____. Be _____.
Be _____. Be _____.
- Strive for _____. Youth love new things.
- Use _____ and _____. Give them ways to _____.
- Focus the Teaching on the _____. Repeat the _____ several times.
- Watch your _____. Keep checking for _____.
- Remind youth that you _____ them and most importantly so does God!
- Give them _____ and have _____!
- Remember this is _____ ministry. Trust Him with every aspect of the class.

Understanding the NextGen Youth Audience—Answer Key

Characterization of NextGen Youth

- They are _____ to _____ years old.
- They have **short** attention spans.
- They have a physical need for **movement** —use it to your advantage!
- They want to know they have a **safe environment** to share feelings and concerns.
- They want to be **heard** and **accepted**.
- They are all asking 3 basic questions:
 - **Who** am I?
 - Do I **matter**?
 - Where do I **fit** in?

Strategies for Teaching and Connecting

- Use the four Rs for effective teaching:
 - Be **real**.
 - Be **relational**.
 - Be **relevant**.
 - Be **relaxed**.
- Strive for **variety**. Youth love new things.
- Use **visuals** and props. Give them ways to **participate**.
- Focus the Teaching on the **Bible Truth**. Repeat the **Bible Truth** several times.
- Watch your **time**. Keep checking for **understanding**.
- Remind youth that you **love** them and most importantly so does God!
- Give them **truth** and have **fun**!
- Remember this is **God's** ministry. Trust Him with every aspect of the class.