

A profile of gen z

Unique challenges?

70% of students “leave the church” after high school.

**70 teenagers on our Grace Life roll have no public
profession of faith.**

Quick profile of kids who stay

- Ate dinner as a family at least 5 nights/week
- Served with their families in a ministry
- Had one spiritual experience in the home during the week
- Entrusted with responsibility in ministry at an early age
- Had at least one faith focused adult in their lives other than their parents

4 Factors that didn't really matter

- If their church had a youth pastor (<25% of churches do)
- What kind of school they went to (public, private, homeschool)
- A “New Christians class” or catechism
- Faith of grandparents (excluding kids raised by grandparents)

10 Factors that mattered

- 75% of students who stay made a public profession of faith before 16
- Kids who are not baptized are 400% more likely to stray
- If they did not have a close relationship with mom 65% more likely to stray, 50% for dads
- If parents were married 11% more likely to stay

10 Factors that mattered

- Those who sit in adult worship service, as opposed to going to children's church are 38% more likely to stay
- If you grew up in church and did not like your senior pastor as a person you're 90% more likely to stray
- 16% more likely to stay if you like your youth leader
- 50% more likely to stray if parents do not serve

10 Factors that mattered

- 33% more likely to stray if their church does not have a college/career ministry
- 109% more likely to stay if they graduate college. 90% more likely if the college has a Christian environment.

**Some good news- 25% of those who
stray, come back**

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 9

- Now Israel, hear the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the Lord your God that I give you.
- Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.