

MIND THE GAP

Generations and the Church

WK1: Approaching Differences

Sunday April 11, 2001

“Generation after generation stands in awe of your work; each one tells stories of your mighty acts.” - Psalm 145:4 (Msg)

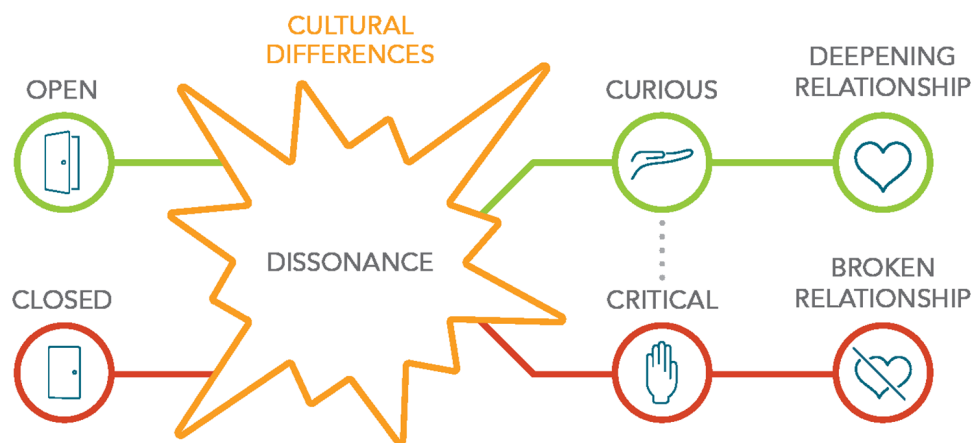
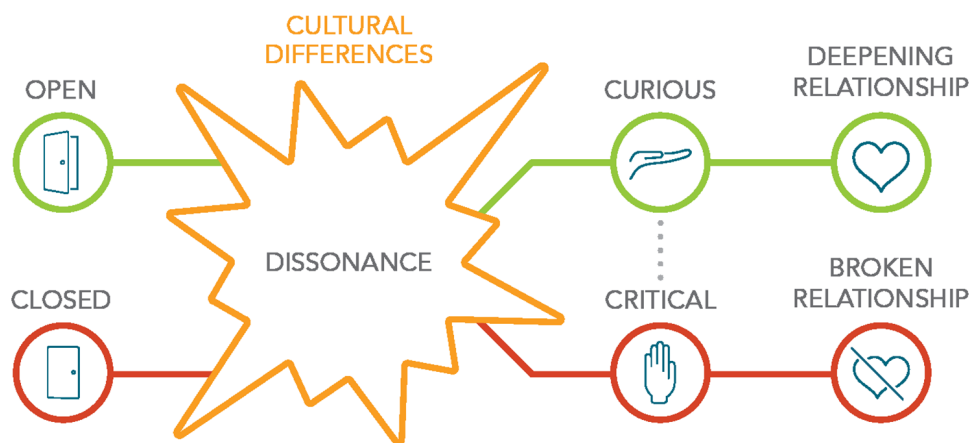
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Go Deeper . . .

Use these questions and resources individually or in a small group.

Generations at a Glance

Traditionalists	Boomers	Gen X	Millennials	Gen Z
1928 - 1945 50 Million	1946 - 1964 76 Million	1965 - 1980 55 Million	1981 - 1998 80 Million	1999—?
Great Depression WWII/Korea Radio Self-Sacrifice	Affluence Stability TV Space Race Self-Fulfillment	Divorce Latchkey Kids Watergate Energy Crisis Mass Layoffs	End of Cold War Internet Globalization Scheduled Lives PCs	War on Terror DotCom & '08 Mass Shootings Uncertainty Smart Phones
"Just be grateful you have a job"	"I deserve better"	"Reality bites"	"Life is a buffet"	"I'm coping and hoping"

1. What generation are you a part of? How are things in the church and world different than when you were young?
2. Where do you encounter dissonance/frustration when interacting with other generations?
- 2.5 How have you handled this dissonance in the past? Have you sought to love and understand or have you judged and avoided? How might you intentionally practice curiosity and learning in these areas of difference?
3. What stereotypes/generalizations do you hear about your generation? Which of these resonate as true? Which of these are harmful/untrue? In what ways do you think your generation is misunderstood by those older or younger than you?
4. What stereotypes/generalizations do you hold regarding other generations? Which of these might be harmful/judgmental? In what ways do you think you might be misunderstanding those who are older or younger than you?
5. Read *Exodus 3:15*; *Ephesians 6:1-4*; and *Colossians 3:20-21*. What do these passages teach us about God's concern for all the generations?

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"Just be grateful you have a job"	"I deserve better"	"Reality bites"	"Life is a buffet"	"I'm coping and hoping"

1. What generation are you a part of? How are things in the church and world different today than when you were young?
2. Where do you encounter dissonance/frustration when interacting with other generations?
- 2.5 How have you handled this dissonance in the past? Have you sought to love and understand or have you judged and avoided? How might you intentionally practice curiosity and learning in these areas of difference?
3. What stereotypes/generalizations do you hear about your generation? Which of these resonate as true? Which of these are harmful/untrue? In what ways do you think your generation is misunderstood by those older or younger than you?
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