



The Gift of Generations

... we will tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.
... which he commanded our ancestors to teach to their children;
that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn,
and rise up and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God,
and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments

Psalm 78:4-7

1903-1925 - Builders/Civic/G.I.: Faith based on knowledge and experience. Have heroes. We will do whatever it takes to get the job done. Believe every generation will be better off. Live a life of sacrifice for the good of others. Want respect.

1926-1945 - Boosters/Silents/Adaptive: Faith based on knowledge and involvement. Deeply committed to common good. Know hymns by heart. No sweat, hard work will get the job done. You can count on my word and a handshake! Save and pay cash. Shaped by the depression, WWII, industrial revolution. Rooted in tradition, loyalty, hard work and conservation of resources. Grew up listening to radio, comfortable with story telling, sermons, traditional music. Trust institutions, leaders. May care for elderly parents, needy children and grandchildren.

1946-1964 - Boomers/Idealist: Post WWII. Dabble in church. Taught that institutional church will pass on the faith (forgot Deut. 6). No problem. Credit oriented. Buy now, pay later. Shaped by TV and incredible social-political change. Experienced assassinations of religious and political leaders, space exploration, civil rights, Viet Nam, women's movement, Watergate. Suspicious of institutions, hierarchy, and authority. Live to work and play. Creative, high standards.

1965-1982 - Busters/Survivors/Gen X/Reactors: (13th generation of immigrants to American soil). Faith is ignorant, searching for meaning. Reached by non-denominational churches. No loyalty to a denomination. Live in shadows of 3 generations. No fear - just do it! Concerned about making ends meet. Shaped by computers, collapse of Berlin Wall, AIDS crisis, divorce. Environmentally conscious. Visual and entertainment oriented. Relationships important. Accept diversity.

1983-2003 - Millennium/Generation Next/Gen Y/Net Gen: New civic generation is community minded, public servants. Faith is ignorant, but responsive to nurturing. Looking for heroes. No worry. Experience a frantic pace of life, formative years spent in childcare, short attention spans, less respect for authority, technology oriented, have assumed adult responsibilities at a young age. Need close bonds with caring adults to balance insecurity in world.

2004-2020 - Adaptive/Gen Z/Homeland