

A Must-Read Report: Gen Z: Rethinking Culture

You have to read this! Whether you are a teacher, chaplain, parent or schools worker, we all need to know what's most important for the children and young people that we are working with. Youth for Christ's new report is rigorously researched – and a fascinating read!

There is a wake-up call right from the first page: Where do young people spend their leisure time? -- a youth club? (these days it's only 2%).

Other findings are maybe more expected:

- 59% of young people said that family was the number one thing that made them feel good about themselves; social media was the most common negative influence.
- What top three things are young people most worried about? -- School exams head the list by quite a margin, with personal appearance and what people think about you as #2 and #3.
- What are the greatest priorities? Money comes quite far down the list (#5); "Making my family proud" is #1; "Feeling that I have achieved something that matters" is #2
- Finding a sense of purpose for life emerged as really important.
- Just under 50% of the young people surveyed don't believe in the existence of God -- in most cases, this seems to be because they had not thought about God or spirituality at all. *However*, for those who do have a belief and also pray, the majority pray regularly/frequently.

But when all these findings are cross-referenced to young people's beliefs and spirituality -- that's when the report is the most revealing.

When young people were asked, "What might make you think about God and spirituality?" unsurprisingly 73% said "Family" -- *but a remarkable 36% said "Teachers"*.

Significantly, 61% of young people know someone who is a Christian -- but a large proportion of young people don't seem to think about God at all. *Since young people pay close attention to both family and teachers, how can we better equip teachers and parents to help them ask questions about/think through spiritual issues?*

If you're reading this, you're bound to work with children and young people – so read this report now!