



Rock Church Point Loma
Pastor Miles McPherson

Heart for The House: Part 2

Broadcast message from November 5, 2023

This 4-week series is all about the connection between our hearts and our actions. In Part 2, Pastor Miles interviews Rock Church youth leaders to understand Gen Z challenges and to discuss empowering and ministering to the next generation.

In your group, review the points and scriptures below, then respond accordingly:

- *Know God:* Kingdom Expansion, Environment Refresh, World Missions, Evangelism
- *Grow in Community:* Next Gen Ministries, Groups, Online Church, Discipleship Pathway
- *Make a Difference:* Toys for Joy, Provisions Distribution, Crisis Response, Community Outreach

1. **Jesus' disciples were probably teenagers** (Exodus 30:14-15, Matthew 17:24-27).
In the Jewish community, discipleship starts to occur at around ages 13 and up
2. **Jesus' disciples were probably not the best students** (Acts 4:13)
Because the disciples didn't have a rabbi, they did not have formal training or education
3. **Jesus' disciples simply needed the Presence of God** (Acts 4:13)
Young people have a strong influence and are highly affected by what's around them

How do people perceive Gen Z?

People misconceive this specific group, already passing judgement on young adults today. Although Gen Z did not create social media, they are just by-products dealing with the consequences. General Z is known for wanting things instantly, at a click of a button, on-demand. Gen Z is isolated because communication occurs via text messaging, not face-to-face, having little/no interaction with others.

How could the perception be changed?

By bringing others to learn more about God through small groups, education, and studying/learning with others in person. Be purposeful with time and priorities, people, and places. Be a good listener, humbled, not self-centered. Be supportive and let others know they are loved.

How is culture challenging your faith?

Today's culture pushes youth to partying, engaging in substances, sleeping around, and more, in order to be accepted. But social media is a huge negative influence: should I be on this page? Should I post this – does it reflect the life God wants me to live? Does it bring honor? Am I sucked into the image of perfection? Not everything on social media is true. Society pushes contradictory things, and tempts youth/young adults to participate in activities that end up drawing them away from God.

Discussion: How can you help the youth and young adults within your church - are you feeling called to disciple them, walk with them, encourage them? If you are not able to help provide financial resources, are you being led to *serve* in children's ministry, school age, or young adults?

