

Emphasis: Creating a space, and atmosphere where the Now Generation “Unfold” – pour out their hearts – feel the care of the mature – see the church as Healer not critics.

Understandings:

- Our Churches are steeped in man-made traditions and customs.
- Varied church cultures, varied congregations are comfortable with; we dress a certain way; we act a certain way; we do church a certain way.
- Congregations confronted with others who do not fit into that church culture; we have a tendency, whether we know it or not, to make them feel like they do not belong.
- Now Generation feel awkward, and even if it is unintentional, they know they are being looked upon as non-conformist, outsider.
- This is an issue that has caused great divide in the church, among congregations; young and old; African American and Caucasian; Asian, Africans, Hispanics etc. rich and poor – republicans and democrats.

We Don't Pretend To Have The Answers:

We Do Know According To Gods Word-- God's mandate – “His Church” is to be in Unity.
(Psalm 133; St. John 17:21) (Revelation 5:9)

True Unity Characteristics

1. it does not have dividing walls.
2. Causes everyone to feel accepted
3. Makes room and even seeks out those that are different
4. Manifest a Kingdom mindset that creates a space where people of all cultures can come together and feel loved and accepted.
5. Is no longer comfortable with man's traditions and customs of conformity which enhance division.
6. Work toward True Unity is what the Family of God is all about made possible through Jesus' ascension.
7. True Unity begins with “Create in me a clean heart and renew a right spirit in me.” (Psalms 51:10)
8. “Let my words and my thoughts be pleasing to you, Lord, because you are my mighty rock and my protector”. (Psalms 19:14) CEB, Amen!!!

Moving Forward Toward True Unity Which Celebrates Differences

“For the Lord sees not as man sees: man, looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7)

He looked beyond my faults and loved me for who I am – God saw my spiritual need.

Prayer – “Lord, I intercede on behalf of a needy Now Generation. Forgive me for judging – The Bible tells us that our righteousness is as filthy rags. (Isaiah 64:6) Amazing Grace will always be my song of praise, hope, faith as I embrace them with your love; just as you embraced me. Amen.”

Commitment – Renewed Mind. (Ephesians 4:23) “to be made new in the attitude of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God” --- “Do not be conformed to this world” (Romans 12:3); (Romans 12:1) Affirmation: – God wants to bless, strengthen, renew, guard and bless our minds, as we focus our thoughts and actions on biblical truths in our pursuit to minister Gods healing and grace to the Now Generation.

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p.s. God is challenging us to talk about it. Pray about it.

Take the lid off that our minds and attitudes may be renewed.

The family of God can function as its true design – from generation to generation. (Daniel 4:36); (Psalms 22:30, 31); (Isaiah 53:8); (Isaiah 41:18). The young and mature together.

Let us not fight let us unite.

We are here and we have your back supporting you in all you do.

Father, help us to make our young people fill valued. Lifting them when they fall, restoring them when they are broken, and encouraging them when they are discouraged.

Bishop Bobby Holmes

On this morning prayer-line, we heard a laudable exhortation by youth pastor, Collin Frazer, from the perspective of a millennial, on how they perceive the typical present-day church. The prayer focus unearthed a passionate prayer/discussion time of areas where we as adult Christians need to examine & address; for example, we, as Christians, need to extend ourselves to them from the perspective of where they are (i.e., just as I am); we need to be ready to cheer them on, rather than criticize them for their shortcomings; we need to make them feel valued in the church, learn to deal with the adverse life-styles that they might bring; they need to feel that we care, are concerned, and expect something of them. Our churches need to facilitate an atmosphere where they can share, be heard, and respond to issues on their hearts. In short, we need to examine our hearts to ascertain the extent to which we present ourselves to our millenniums as the personification of the Jesus from the Bible that we preach to them about.

Pastor Rudolph De Pass

I spoke about how God sees a generation—every age together as one people of God. Young and old. Those whom the Lord would send into the nations—young people with the energy and zeal of the Lord. Those who would provide leadership and discipleship, and those who are to be disciplined. Those who would provide funding and administrative support. Spiritual mothers and fathers. We need to become one unified generation, so that we can complete the work the Lord has set before us.

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