

Hopesprings Student Culture Seminar  
The Crowded House 02.28.08

\_\_\_\_\_ **notions surrounding youth culture:**

Youth culture is **just that bad.**

Bad \_\_\_\_\_: Get saved, get out of the world, just hold on and wait for heaven...

We need two \_\_\_\_\_: from the world to Christ, from Christ back into the world...

Inability to identify \_\_\_\_\_ issues vs. \_\_\_\_\_ issues (teens want to be different, individuals)

**Three Responses to Youth Culture:**

1. **Unrealistic** \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ **Pessimism**

3. \_\_\_\_\_ **Realism**

See \_\_\_\_\_ as a cross-cultural ministry, see yourself as \_\_\_\_\_ .

...utilize, teach corrective lenses

...there is a lot out there in culture that is good, worthwhile

...we can have an influence on the culture

**Know God's \_\_\_\_\_ Word.**

...both Jesus and the Bible

...what does the Bible say about \_\_\_\_\_.

**Know \_\_\_\_\_ Kids and their \_\_\_\_\_ World.**

Stages of development...

...mid-adolescence and post-adolescence

...kids are adolescents longer and earlier

Know them individually...

...things that have not happened (connection, intimacy, teaching)

...things that should have happened

...ASK GREAT QUESTIONS

**Take the \_\_\_\_\_ Word to Changing Kids growing up in a Changing World.**

**Culture:**

**It is a \_\_\_\_\_ that students swim in every day.**

What are the ingredients?

What is good?

What is destructive?

**Kids are \_\_\_\_\_.**

...culture gets inside of them

...becomes a part of them

\_\_\_\_\_ Includes:

**Inside \_\_\_\_\_ on Students:**

1. Increase and \_\_\_\_\_ of Divorce.
2. The Crisis of \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Increasing \_\_\_\_\_ of Mothers who Work Outside the Home.
4. Decrease in the Amount of \_\_\_\_\_ Parents Spend With their Kids.
5. More teenagers are victims of family \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ Influences on Students:

**Music, Advertising, Media... The Digital \_\_\_\_\_.**

...many people believe the media, not parents, are parenting kids today

**Old Media:**

**New Media:**

**Media Outlets:**

***Popular Music***

...kids are listening...and they are watching

**How does music shape and mold kids?**

1. Learning from the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Learning from the \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Learning from \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Learning from \_\_\_\_\_.

**TV**

**Movies**

**Radio**

**Magazines and Books**

**Video Games**

## **The Digital Revolution**

1. The Increased Use of Digital Technologies is Changing the way Kids \_\_\_\_\_ to Others.
2. This “Alone” Time and Tendency Toward “Flying Solo” in the Digital \_\_\_\_\_ Leads to Greater \_\_\_\_\_ and Less \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Instant and Text Messaging are Huge-and They are about a Lot More Than \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Social Networking and \_\_\_\_\_ are Changing the Ways that Kids Relate.

- ...students view their online journals as “private”
- ...most of what they write is very real
- ...we need to be realistic and prepared for anything
- ...these sites can serve good purposes
- ...we need to know how to use this information to minister to our students

5. Kids Have \_\_\_\_\_ at Their Fingertips.
  - ...the age groups that view internet pornography most frequently are 12-17 year-olds
  - ...we can expect a growing number of kids to be exposed to pornography at younger and younger ages
  - ...the envelope will continue to be stretched
  - ...the more they see, the more desensitized they will become
  - ...pornography use will decreasingly be viewed as sin
  - ...the sinful values and practices in pornography will become normalized

6. The Digital Revolution Will Fuel \_\_\_\_\_.

7. Internet \_\_\_\_\_ is a Growing Concern.

**Media’s \_\_\_\_\_ Power**

Misconceptions:

**Media Maps Out \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for Kids**

**Postmodern \_\_\_\_\_:**

The Enlightenment is a bust...there is no such thing as progress...  
Life has no meaning...it is just a game...  
You are the only one who cares about you...  
No story is universally true...  
There is no such thing as truth except the truth you create for yourself...  
Every claim to truth is a power play...  
Therefore, everything must be distrusted...  
There is no order...all is random...  
You only go around once in life, so do it with gusto...

*Media will shape kids based on where they are \_\_\_\_\_.*

Those who are younger will be more easily influenced because they will tend to believe what they hear and see

Teens want to believe something. They are going through tremendous change and deep questions...they want answers

These effects will vary depending on the student...and they happen slowly, over time.

**Media Shapes Kid's \_\_\_\_\_.**

### **Effects of Media**

Media Often Presents a \_\_\_\_\_ View of \_\_\_\_\_.

Media Provides Many "Heroes" and "Role Models" Who Aren't Worth \_\_\_\_\_.

Media Often Creates Unrealistic Body-Image \_\_\_\_\_.

Media Often Nurtures the \_\_\_\_\_ Life Syndrome.

Media Often Fosters and Teaches \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Results?**

...may lead students to be desensitized to the horrors of violence

...may make kids more aggressive

...kids may imitate the violent behaviors they have encountered

...kids may have an unrealistic view of the world

Media Shapes Their \_\_\_\_\_ Understanding and Behaviors.

Media Often Shapes their \_\_\_\_\_ about Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drugs.

Media Often Promotes Sexual \_\_\_\_\_.

Media Often Teaches Kids to \_\_\_\_\_ Females.

Media Often Defines and Shapes Kids' Idea of \_\_\_\_\_.

Media Often Teaches That Meaning is Found in \_\_\_\_\_.

Media Can Foster a Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_.

Media Often Shapes Teenagers' \_\_\_\_\_ and Beliefs.

Media Often Causes "\_\_\_\_\_ Confusion".

Media Often Reaches Teenagers with \_\_\_\_\_ Commentary and Messages about Social Issues.

Media Often Teaches \_\_\_\_\_ as a Conflict-Resolution Strategy.

Media Often Promotes \_\_\_\_\_ and Amoralism.

Media Can Lead Kids to \_\_\_\_\_.

Media Use Can Lead to Relational and \_\_\_\_\_ Breakdowns.

Media Use is Affecting Kids' \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Guidelines for Dealing With Media:**

**Guideline Number I: Focus on the \_\_\_\_\_, Not the \_\_\_\_\_ System**

**Guideline Number II: Teach Students How to \_\_\_\_\_ Everything they See and Hear Biblically.**

**Step #1: \_\_\_\_\_**

What's the main topic and theme?

What's the mood of the piece?

How is it intended to make viewers/listeners feel?

How does it make me feel?

Does it make any overt or covert suggestions to viewers/listeners regarding how to think, speak, act or live?

Is there right and wrong? What is portrayed as right and wrong? How are right and wrong determined?

Is there a hero or villain? What do they stand for?

What values and beliefs are presented as virtuous and which ones are presented negatively?

Who or what is the source of authority? What is the attitude towards authority?

How is God portrayed? What does it say about God? Who or what is God (god)?

Is the one true God replaced by some other deity (self, money sex, etc.)?

How are human beings portrayed?

Where is human value and worth found?

How is beauty established, portrayed, and defined?

What does it say about how to treat others? Are people "used" or portrayed as a means to an end?

What is the source of happiness and satisfaction in life?

Does it send any messages about what makes a person "successful" in life?

What does it say about what's wrong with the world?

Does it suggest any solutions to life's problems? If so, what are those solutions?  
Who or what is glorified?  
What does it say about peace and hope? Are suggestions made about where they can be found  
Is it hopeful or hopeless?  
What character traits are portrayed as positive or negative?

**Step #2:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Excellence**...creativity, sound, unity, and production quality

\_\_\_\_\_...Is the author honest with himself and what he believes?

**Content**...does it present truth?

**The \_\_\_\_\_ of Content and Vehicle**...the sound or style reflects the content or worldview.

**Step #3:** \_\_\_\_\_

Does the media have value for your personal entertainment and enjoyment? Does it reflect a Biblical worldview, drawing me closer to Christ, or draw me away?

Does this media have ministry value?

How does this media help me see and understand the worldview and needs of my kids and their culture?

How would Jesus share with people who think this way?

How can the Bible shape my response to these needs?

**Guideline Number III: Avoid** \_\_\_\_\_

**Extreme #1:** \_\_\_\_\_ for Your Life! (Alarmist Pessimism)

This equates media to a ticking time bomb...not all media is bad!

It is totally \_\_\_\_\_.

Teenagers miss the chance to make good \_\_\_\_\_.

This may destroy family unity and lead to \_\_\_\_\_.

It is \_\_\_\_\_ wrong.

**Extreme #2:** Go to \_\_\_\_\_ (Unrealistic Optimism)

Kids see we don't care

Doors are opened for other voices to speak into the lives of students

Kids will be rightly in the world and wrongly of the world

This is unrealistic, uncaring, and unloving as an approach to parenting

**Guideline Number IV: Examine** \_\_\_\_\_

**Step #1:** \_\_\_\_\_

for yourself  
for your kids  
for those who control the media

**Step #2: Know where God stands and plant \_\_\_\_\_ in the same place**

**Step #3: Watch your \_\_\_\_\_**

How much time do you spend in front of the TV?  
What shows do you watch?  
Do you laugh at sitcom humor that is racist, sexual, or devalues people?  
Do you watch soap operas?  
Would it be difficult for you to turn off the tv and read a book or spend time with your family?  
What kind of music do you listen to?  
Do you avoid and criticize “nasty” music that your kids listen to, only to listen to adult contemporary music that features the same messages and themes?

**Step #4: Don't catch egg-on-the-face \_\_\_\_\_**

Go to cpyu.org often  
Watch what your kids are watching...utilize the three d's  
Listen to the music your kids are listening to. Look up the lyrics  
Watch an hour of tv on your kids favorite channel every week...visit the station's website  
Browse through entertainment magazines (Rolling Stone, Entertainment Weekly) and any other magazines your kids are reading  
Subscribe to Engage...CPYU's quarterly journal on youth culture

**Step # 5 Find out why your kids like the \_\_\_\_\_ films, music, and TV that they do.**

**Step #6 Love your \_\_\_\_\_**

**Guideline # 5: Be \_\_\_\_\_**

Listen and watch with them  
Don't argue as though you have all of the answers  
Families should eat together  
Play with your kids  
When the going gets rough, offer alternatives  
Have family devotions  
Develop media guidelines and learn to say no

- Limit the number of media outlets in their bedrooms
- Decide how long the TV will be on in your house each day
- Be sure to spend viewing time together
- Develop standards regarding the specific shows, themes, and program content of media in your house
- Put the TV in a cabinet that closes or in a less prominent place in your house
- Limit game-playing time and monitor the games they are playing
- Don't be afraid to say no

**Some Guidelines Related to the Digital \_\_\_\_\_:**

- The Internet is a Great Resource
- Talk Openly With Your Kids about Internet Dangers
- Keep Looking Over Their Shoulders
- Establish Time Limits
- Establish "Never" Rules
- Use a Software Blocker

**These \_\_\_\_\_ are leading to trends:**

**Teenagers are More \_\_\_\_\_ Active:**

**Reasons:**

1. Our Hyper-Sexual Culture Says That the Choice is Yours
2. Kids are Craving \_\_\_\_\_ and love
3. Permissive Parents
4. Peer Influence
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Lack of Information about Sex
7. Feelings of \_\_\_\_\_
8. Feelings of Vulnerability
9. I Can't Wait That Long
10. Curiosity
11. Age \_\_\_\_\_
12. To Strengthen Relationships
13. Coercion

**What You Can Do:**

1. Love Your Kids
2. Teach and Discuss God's Sexual \_\_\_\_\_
3. Teach Your Kids about the Many Good Reasons for Waiting
4. Help Them Grow \_\_\_\_\_
5. Help Them Establish Relational Do's and Don'ts
6. Help Your School Choose or Develop a Good Sex-Education \_\_\_\_\_

**Teenagers Think \_\_\_\_\_ is the Desirable Lifestyle**

**Attitudes \_\_\_\_\_ by Culture:**

1. Things Bring Happiness
2. Stuff Gives You the \_\_\_\_\_
3. What's Wrong With Being Self-Centered?
4. I'll Never Have \_\_\_\_\_

**What You can Do:**

1. Lead and Teach by Example (Read pg. 328)
2. Don't Push or \_\_\_\_\_ Your Kids
3. Give Them Your Time (Read pg. 331)
4. Give Your Kids the \_\_\_\_\_, Not the Good Life
5. Let Your Kids Be Themselves
6. Instill in Them A Sense of Mission; Encourage Them to Live \_\_\_\_\_

**The Prevalence of \_\_\_\_\_ Abuse.**

**Increased Risk-Taking \_\_\_\_\_.**

**The Rise in Teen \_\_\_\_\_.**

**The Epidemic of Teenage \_\_\_\_\_ and Suicide.**

**Smorgasboard \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Principles to \_\_\_\_\_ the Cross-Generational Gap:**

- I. Understanding the world of Kids is Primarily a Parent's Calling
- II. It's Never Too \_\_\_\_\_
- III. It's Never Too Late
- IV. It Won't Be Easy
  - A. Continue to read literature about the world of your teenagers (CPYU, etc.).
  - B. Watch the T.V. you students are watching; visit the internet sites they are visiting.
  - C. Observe teenagers at a mall, at church, to see their values and morality from their conversations with each other.
  - D. DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK YOUR STUDENTS \_\_\_\_\_
  - E. Visit [www.cpyu.org](http://www.cpyu.org) regularly.
- V. Pain is a Blessing
- VI. Understanding Student Culture Equips Parents to Pass on the Torch of Faith
  - A. You need to be able to relate truth to a different culture.
  - B. You are a cross-cultural missionary!
- VII. Understanding Student Culture Fosters Relational Closeness

### **Deuteronomy 6**

4"Hear, O Israel:(E) The LORD our God, the LORD is one.[b] 5You(F) shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6And(G) these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7(H) You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. 8(I) You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9(J) You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.