

# **Becoming Who We Already Are**

Intergenerational Ministry in Action

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## **Assessment Discussion Questions**

1. What generations are present in our gatherings and ministries? What generations are missing? What generations could be present?
2. As a church how ARE we giving voice to each generation? How are we engaging them?
3. List all efforts to combine more than one generational group in service or ministry.
4. How do we foster an environment where everyone knows they are valued?
5. Do we provide opportunities for everyone to question and explore faith issues?
6. What experiences are currently being shared among the generations?
7. Where and how is story being shared?
8. What is the current identity of the church among the generations?



## How am I GROWing Intergenerationally?

There are no right or wrong answers to these survey questions.

This is simply a tool to see how we are already interacting intergenerationally and to get a pulse on where we would like to grow intergenerationally.

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: M F How many generations live in our home? \_\_\_\_\_

### Gods Word

**Circle** all generations whom you currently interact with while reading, exploring or reflecting on the Bible. **Underline** all generations you would be open to interacting with while reading, exploring or reflecting on the bible.

Children      Youth      Young Adult      Adult      Later Adult      None

### Relationships

**Circle** all generations whom you currently engage in faith life conversations or have a spiritually growing relationship. **Underline** all generations you would be open to engage in faith life conversations or have a spiritually growing relationship.

Children      Youth      Young Adult      Adult      Later Adult      None

**Circle** all generations whom you currently serve with in ministry inside the church. **Underline** all generations you would be open to serving with in ministry inside the church.

Children      Youth      Young Adult      Adult      Later Adult      None

### Outward Action

**Circle** all generations whom you currently serve with in ministry outside the church. **Underline** all generations you would be open to serving with in ministry outside the church.

Children      Youth      Young Adult      Adult      Later Adult      None

### Worship

**Circle** all generations whom you currently worship and pray with outside the church. **Underline** all generations you would be open to worshipping and praying with outside and inside the church.

Children      Youth      Young Adult      Adult      Later Adult      None

**Why I want to GROW intergenerationally:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Worship Evaluation

	Evaluate each statement and include percentage of weekly occurrence where appropriate. For example if a statement is true for half the weekly services, the percentage would be 50% or 26 weeks.	Yes	No	% or # of Weekly Occurrences
1.	Church leaders encourage and advocate for worship that is intergenerational and worship leadership that includes all generations.			
2.	All generations are considered in the planning of each worship service			
3.	Attention is paid to inclusive vocabulary that children as well as adults can understand			
4.	Sermon illustrations include references to all generations including children and youth			
5.	The inclusion of each generation is considered within prayer elements			
6.	The service and setting include images and the opportunity for each participant to experience them.			
7.	Movement is planned into each worship service and sensitive to everyone.			
8.	Experiential elements are included			
9.	Attention is given to the amount of time allotted for each worship element and the attention span of children.			
10.	Parents are equipped to help children worship			
11.	The congregation is educated on how to encourage and affirm children in worship			
12.	Consideration is given to helping prepare children and youth to serve as worship leaders			
13.	All generations are given the opportunity to share their continuing stories of faith.			
	Worship Leaders reflect the entire body including children and youth...			
14.	as prayer leaders			
15.	as scripture readers			
16.	as ushers and greeters			
17.	through sharing their stories of faith			
18.	through music			
19.	through drama or dance			
20.	within a creative worship planning team			
21.	through AV, worship set up and clean up			



Intergenerationally

## **Outward Action Event Assessment**

What is the event?

How will it be announced to all ages?

How do people sign up?

Who is involved in planning the event?

In what ways can people serve during this event/project?

What parts of the event/project are accessible to...

Children (12 and under)?

Teens (13-18)?

Early Adults (18-30)

Middle Adults (31-59)

Later Adults (60- )?

Will families be able to serve together?

Will different generations intentionally interact during the project/event?

Where will this happen?

How will this happen?

How will it benefit the body? The community?

How is the story told afterwards? Who gets to tell it?

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

## ABOUT GOD, FAITH and OTHER THINGS

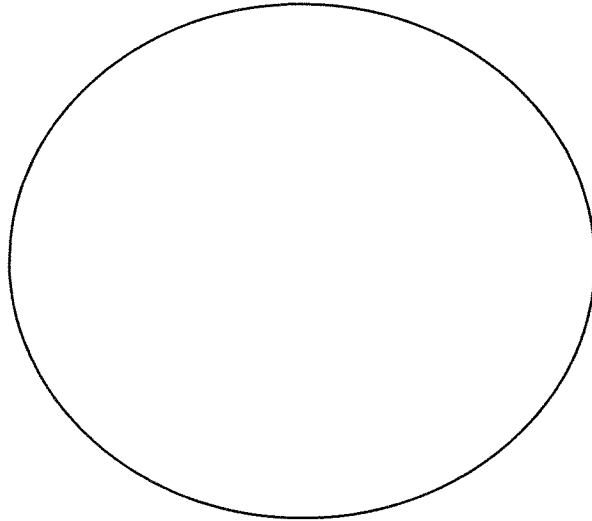
Please circle one: 8-14      15-21      22-35      36-55      56-75      76+

1. When are the times you talk to God?
2. If you could send God an e-mail what would you say?
3. How can you tell a person is a Christian?
4. What is the one thing that is hard to understand about God?
5. Can you tell me one time God helped you out?
6. Why is it hard to talk to non-Christian friends about God?
7. What advice would you give God?
8. What would make going to church more meaningful to you?

# Discussion Group Questions

1. Draw a pie chart of your churches generational makeup.

Preschool-12    13-18    19-25    26-40    41-55    56-75    75+



2. List 3 of your churches best assets for integrating intergenerational ministry.

3. List 2 biggest challenges for integrating IM as a core value in your congregation.

4. List 2 ideas that could help you become more **INTENTIONALLY** intergenerational.

# Sample List of Intergenerational Ministry Resources Available

## Intergenerational Ministry Resources

~~Incorporating Children in Worship+~~  
Michelle A. Clifton-Soderstrom and David D. Bjorlin  
Cascade Books, 2014  
ISBN 13: 978-1-62032-621-3

~~Intergenerational Christian Formation+~~  
Holly Catterton Allen and Christine Lawton Ross  
InterVarsity Press, 2012  
ISBN 978-0-8308-3981-0

~~Generations Together+~~  
Kathie Amidei, Jim Merhaut and John Roberto  
Lifelong Faith Publications, 2014  
ISBN 978-0-9823031-5-3

~~Sticky Faith+~~  
Kara Powell and Chap Clark  
Zondervan, 2011  
ISBN 978-0-310-32932-9

~~The Church of All Ages+~~  
*Generations Worshipping Together*  
Howard Vanderwell, Editor  
The Alban Institute, 2008  
ISBN-13: 978-1-56699-358-6

~~Think Orange+~~  
Reggie Joiner  
David C Cook, 2009  
ISBN 978-1-4347-6483-6

~~The Evangelical Covenant Church!~~



~~8303 W. Higgins Road~~

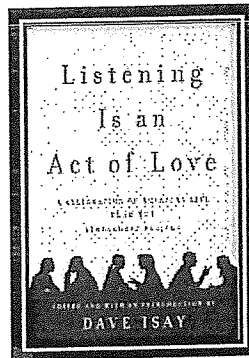
~~Chicago, IL 60631~~

~~773 978 493 000~~

~~Fax 773 978 491 366~~

~~www.covchurch.org/cov/formation/index.htm~~

## Resource: The StoryCorps Project (<http://www.storycorps.net>)



StoryCorps is an independent nonprofit project whose mission is to honor and celebrate one another's lives through listening. By recording the stories of our lives with the people we care about, we experience our history, hopes, and humanity. Since 2003, tens of thousands of everyday people have interviewed family and friends through StoryCorps. Each conversation is recorded on a free CD to take home and share, and is archived for generations to come at the Library of Congress. Millions listen to our award-winning broadcasts on public radio and the Internet. The book, *Listening Is an Act of Love* by Dave Isay, presents a sampling of the stories that have been recorded. StoryCorps is one of the largest oral history projects of its kind, creating a growing portrait of who we really are as Americans.

The heart of StoryCorps is the conversation between two people who are important to each other: a son asking his mother about her childhood, an immigrant telling his friend about coming to America, or a couple reminiscing on their 50th wedding anniversary. By helping people to connect, and to talk about the questions that matter, the StoryCorps experience is powerful and sometimes even life-changing. Our goal is to make that experience accessible to all, and find new ways to inspire people to record and preserve the stories of someone important to them.

Go to [www.storycorps.net](http://www.storycorps.net) for resources on developing your own storytelling project.

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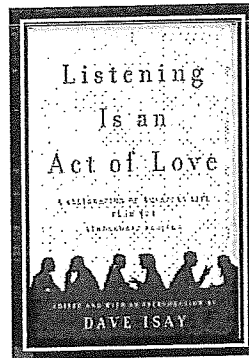
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