

ICEA Presentation: “Pastoring Millennials”

Mon, Aug. 6, 2018

District Elder Mark Redd

- (often stated & True!) :Methods change (outreach to draw) **BUT, NOT the Message!**
- **Problem**: churches concentrate on the “Package” more than the Contents!
 - Demo: beautiful gift BUT Nothing in it!
 - Don’t “over-emphasize” the wrapping of the gift; emphasize what’s “**IN**” the package!
- The Message...the Mission **NEVER** changed!
 - (Jesus said) “I come that you might have Life (an answer)...
 - “I come to seek and save that which is lost...”
 - (to us- Mt. 28:19) “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you...”
 - Times may have changed...BUT, people’s problems are still the Same!
 - JESUS is STILL the Answer!...Today!
 - We Still have...women with issues of blood...women at the well...blind Bartemeus’...possessed maniacs, etc
- Jesus is Still our example: “let this mind be IN you that was also in Christ Jesus.”
 - Phil.2:7 says, “But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form (packaging) of a servant, and was made (packaged) in the likeness of men...(though on the **INSIDE**, He was God!)”
 - Isa. 53:2 (Jesus) “...he hath no form nor comeliness and when we see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him...”
- (Packaging) Careful not to “over-emphasize” the package...they then won’t like the “Insides”!
 - i.e.- glorious outside; service, humility, suffering, etc...inside!
 - Jesus “packaged” the gospel as...”send you as sheep in midst of wolves...any man come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me...ye shall be hated of all men...etc”
 - Paul says, “if we suffer with him, we shall also reign with him...yea and ALL that will live godly SHALL suffer persecution...”
- We Offer the world (older, mills, etc) qualities in Jesus they can’t get in the World! (Inside Gift!)

- **Not** bring the World In the Church!

➤ **The Presentation to Present...Anointed Power!** (i.e. – Demonstration of Power!)

- Isa. 10:27 says, “And it shall come to pass in that day, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed **because of the anointing...**”
 - Problems the same: yokes, problems, addictions, struggles...
 - Answer (msg) the Same...
 - Millennials **STILL** drawn by the Power of the Anointing!...Not “packaging”!
 - After Pentecost (upper room), it was “signs and wonders” that drew people in!
 - (Testimony) GTC added Prayer services, Fasting, and Word! Souls being saved...because of the Anointing!
 - Remember, the Spirit deals “Internally”, where our problems are!
 - Anointing & Internal change Does Not come thru “External” (packaging) means!

➤ **Things to Draw & Maintain “Millennials”:**

1. Mills want the TRUTH (be REAL and Transparent!)
 - Be Current...use current events & issues (i.e. – MeToo, Black Lives Matter, etc)
2. Mills want answers to questions (thru teaching; ex – “where traditions originated”, etc)
3. Mills learn thru “Technology (their biggest use – reach them where they are!) – social media.
 - Use current tech; use audio-visual while teaching!
4. Mills want to “Be Involved”!
 - Want to help “outside” the church; comm., missions, etc.
 - Teach...Practice...Engage...(Teach-to-teach; learn most from “teaching others”)
 - Small group studies as opposed to large Bible studies! (with like age or gender groups)
5. Use Research techniques!
 - Use modern technology while teaching (if you can’t, engage others!)
 - Ask questions! (mills like to be “Challenged”!)
 - Give assignments: (this is where we incorporate our church legacy and history!)
 - Use them to create your PP presentations, History presentations, FB “live” broadcasts, Twitter, etc (creates a sense of “esteem” and inclusiveness!)

6. Create Discussion Groups! (helps to engage mils)

- Mil's rather be "coached or mentored" as opposed to lectured to or "preached at"!
- Creates relationships thru "like experiences" (i.e.- divorcees, abused, addicts, cancer survivors, etc)

➤ **Recap & Summary:**

- Reach the Mil's...with THE Message!
- Demonstrate the Solution, the Answer...thru Anointed services!
- Form Relationships...Hear them!
- Above All...DO! (Get Involved!)