



Empowering People to Change the World

## **We are the Church**

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# WE ARE THE CHURCH

## 1. Introduction

Good morning... my name is Ethan, Youth and Young Adults Pastor. We have officially made it through "Graduation Season" in Colorado Springs! I have never attended more graduation ceremonies in my life—and I love it! So, to the many of you that hosted graduations parties this year—thank you for all of the free food! My son eats like a tank, and you really helped our monthly grocery bill.

Well, in addition to all of the people that graduated this year... ladies and gentlemen... this year, Millennials have officially graduated college. Now, let me just say, as part of the millennial generation, Millennials have kind of a bad rap. Some of it is deserved, and some of it just funny- read tweets.

First, turn to the person next to you and say, "This is a joke!"

Read some tweets about Millennials:

"Millennial culture is when your friend actually calls you on your actual phone and the first words out of your mouth are, "Are you ok?"

"Next time someone complains about Millennials, maybe remind them which generation linoleumed over all those beautiful hardwood floors."

"You Millennials and your obsession with public health care. Back in my day we just died."

"Changing my voicemail to say the following: "

"Hi, I'm a millennial. I'll never check this so please just text me, pretty please."

"Everyone hates Millennials until it's time to convert a PDF into a Word document."

Well, while these are humorous, the reality of the situation is bleak. According to Barna research, over 59% of Millennials who grew up in church have left.

- I firmly believe that this is not God's intention for His bride. I believe that we are one body, made of many parts, made of many generations, and called to work together in unity.
- WE are the Church. From the young children's, to the baby boomers, to Gen X, to Millennials... WE are the Church.
- I believe we exist in a culture that segments and separates generations—a culture of disunity where generations are fighting each other.
- I believe that God is calling the church to a new level of unity—instead of generations disagreeing and fighting each other—generations being united and fighting together.
- We at The Road at Chapel Hills, we are praying for a Kingdom Revolution. That His will would be done on earth as it is in Heaven. If He tarries, we are building a church that will last 100 years.
- When God revealed himself to Moses in the burning bush in Exodus chapter 3: verse 16 He described himself as the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacobs. He is the God of the Fathers, and their sons, and their sons. The God of many generations.

- Its my privilege today to take a little of your time to open the word and discuss 3 practical ways that we, as the church, as one body, can work towards a culture of unity and a culture of honor.
- My prayer is our hearts would be inspired by His word to build a culture where many generations are fighting together to
  - 1) build a church that will last 100 years,
  - 2) be a church that empowers people to change the World, and
  - 3) be a church that God uses to bring a Kingdom of God revolution to the Rocky Mountain Region.

## 2. **Younger Generations-** Time to step up

- A- Joshua 1 (Joshua). Be brave! This was the first generation that had not seen war.
- B- Humor
- C- Read the word!
- D- We are not “young adults” anymore.

## 3. **Older Generations-** You are not done. We need you.

- A. Joshua 8 (Caleb)
- B. Humor
- C. Harvard Study- the number one thing Millennials want is coaching, mentorship. (Reverse mentorship).
- D. Do not be afraid of Millennials.

## 4. **3 Practical tips to build a culture of Honor & Unity**

- A. Be Kind. (Mayo clinic, kindness related to friendship)  
**John 13:35**  
***By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."***

B. Pull out the Gold. (Find one person in a different generation to speak a positive word of life to this week, i.e. genuine word of encouragement.)

C. Be Brave. (Power of vulnerability, Brene Brown. Covenant of harmony, Matthew 18. This week, have 1 “critical conversation.” If you have been holding on to something, let it go. Lets work together, to work through things, in kindness.)

## 5. Conclusion

a. Why does all of this matter? Raise your hand if you want to see the Holy Spirit move Powerfully at The Road?

b. **Acts 1:14**

***These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.***

- joined one together in prayer,

**Acts 2:1,**

***When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.***

- all together in one place.

c. What we see is Unity preceding the mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

d. So, as a church, as one body made up of many members, let us work together. Let us not fight each other, but fight together. Let us fight for unity, let us fight for a culture of Honor. Let us fight to empower each other. And let us fight together for a Kingdom of God Revolution in Colorado Springs.

e. Let's pray.

## 6. Ministry Time

- a. We have a God who is a restorer. He restores what we have lost. Maybe you feel like fear may be holding you back. Maybe you have felt like your mission has passed, but you are feeling a stirring in your heart—we want to pray for you!
- b. Pray for unity, boldness/courage, direction/ a new mission.

## References

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