

Title: "Needed: Information Regarding IA With Gen Z"

May 30, 2022

Greetings all,

As the InterVarsity team and I move forward with planning Immanuel Approach ministry for Urbana 2022, it would be very helpful to hear from people who have experience with using the Immanuel Approach with Gen Z (teenagers and young adults).

For example, what about students at Urbana who are not able to connect with Jesus? I'm thinking that there will probably be some students who have blockages that are complicated enough that they will not be able to establish a connection with Jesus by the end of the 60-minute ministry time, and some (many?) of these students will be fairly frustrated and/or discouraged. We will need to have a plan in place to care for these students -- we will need to have people on the team who are able to attune to these students regarding their frustration and discouragement, and then also encourage them regarding the expectation of eventual good results with additional troubleshooting, and point them to appropriate resources regarding additional troubleshooting.

And this is where additional information regarding IA with Gen Z would be very helpful. If people in the wider IA community are observing that 95% to 98% of Gen Z recipients are able to establish a connection with Jesus by the end of the first session, then if we minister to 2,000 students over the course of the conference, we can expect to end up with 1900+ students who have wonderful experiences with the living, interactive presence of Jesus (YEAH!!!). And we will also need to care for 40 to 100 students who are frustrated and/or discouraged at the end of the ministry time. For 40 to 100 students, this care will be fairly easy to provide.

However, if people in the wider IA community are observing that 75% to 80% of Gen Z recipients are able to establish a connection with Jesus by the end of the first session, then if we minister to 2,000 students over the course of the conference, we will still end up with 1500+ students who have wonderful experiences with the living, interactive presence of Jesus (again, YEAH!!!). But we will have 400 to 500 students who need care for painful frustration and discouragement. For 400 to 500 students, we will need to have a lot more resources in place.

So to those of you who have been facilitating IA sessions for college-age recipients, it would be very helpful for us to know what you have been observing regarding this point. You've done IA prayer with 5, and they've all experienced wonderful connections by the end of the first hour? Or maybe you've worked with 20, and 5 of them encountered complicated blockages that required multiple troubleshooting sessions to resolve? Please let us know.

And, of course, it would be helpful to hear any other observations that you think might be valuable. For example, points where Gen Z folks often have particular difficulty, or modifications that have been particularly effective in working with college-age recipients.

Thanks and blessings,

Dr. Lehman/Karl

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