

War!

There they go!



Before they reach 20...





**Over 50%
of our
youth will
leave the
church!**

Why?!

War!





K J V

REVELATION 12:7

**“And there
was war
in heaven . . .”**



K J V

REVELATION 12:9

“And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world . . .”

CON MAN







What is this war all about?

War is for the mind!

Satan invents unnumbered schemes to occupy our minds, that they may not dwell upon the very work with which we ought to be best acquainted. He knows that with him **EVERYTHING** depends on his **diverting minds from Jesus and His truth.**

Great Controversy p. 488

Proverbs 23:7

What a man thinks in his heart...

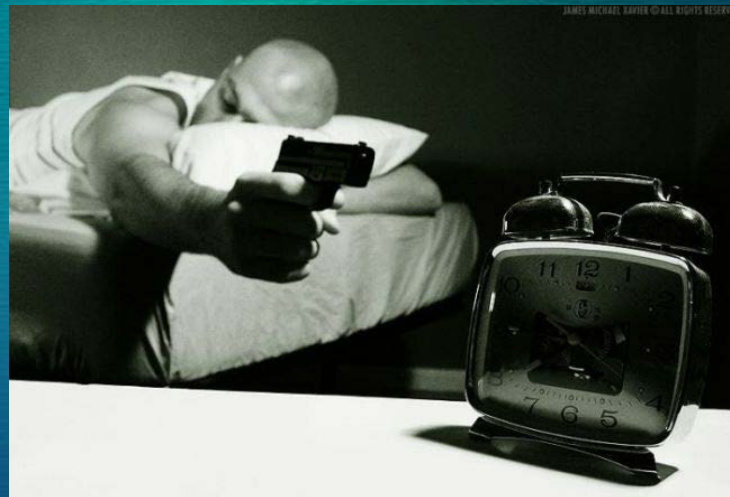
so is he!

**Satan is battling for the
minds of our young
people!**

Our kids are surrounded



From the time they get up...



They fall asleep at night...







Screen Time



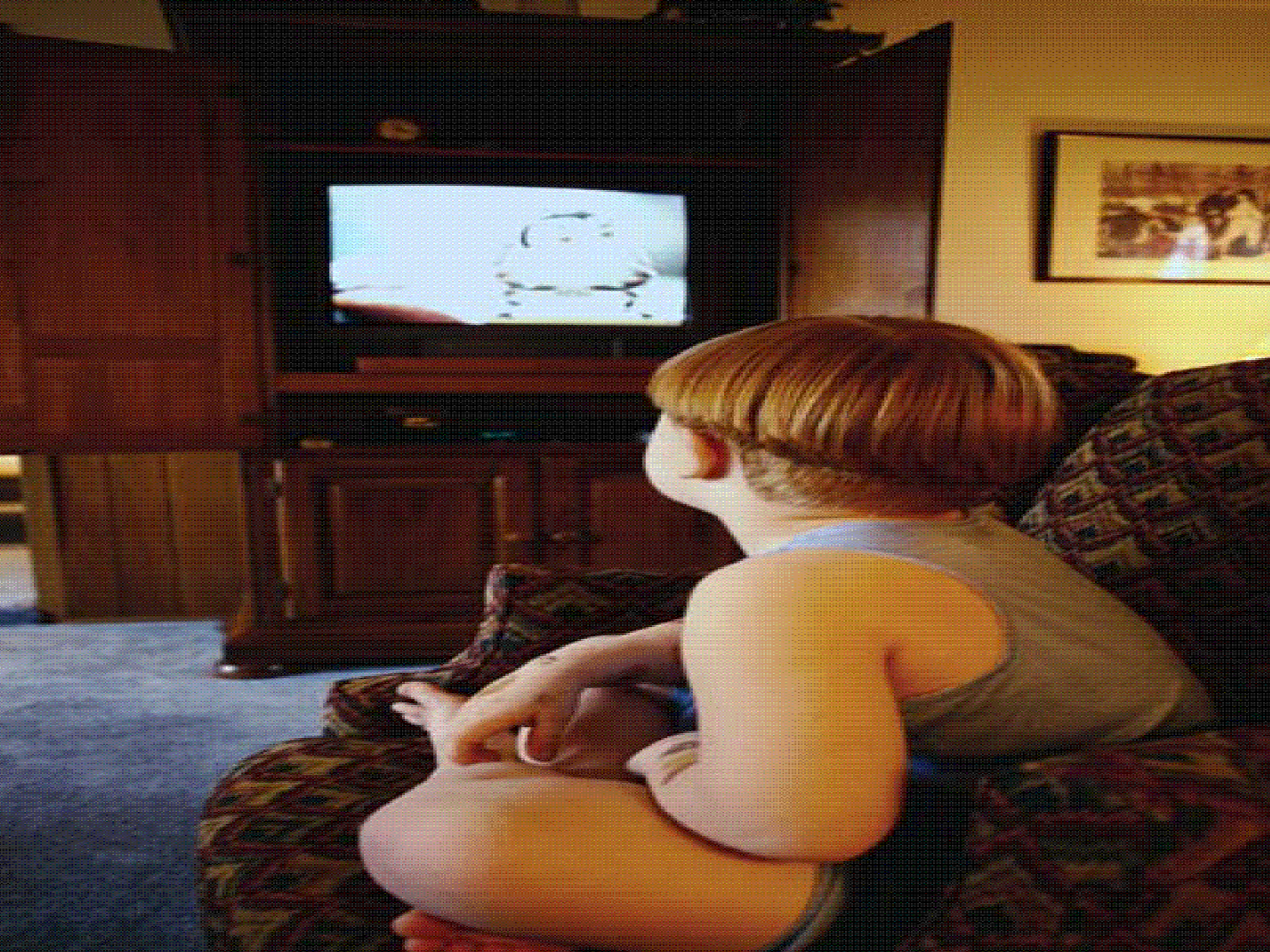






Average kid today gets...

- 7 ½ hours of screen time **DAILY!!**
 - They actually experience 10 ½ hours of screen time through multi-tasking.
- Did I mention that this was **OUTSIDE** of school!!



HEROES



DEAD MEN DO TELL TALES

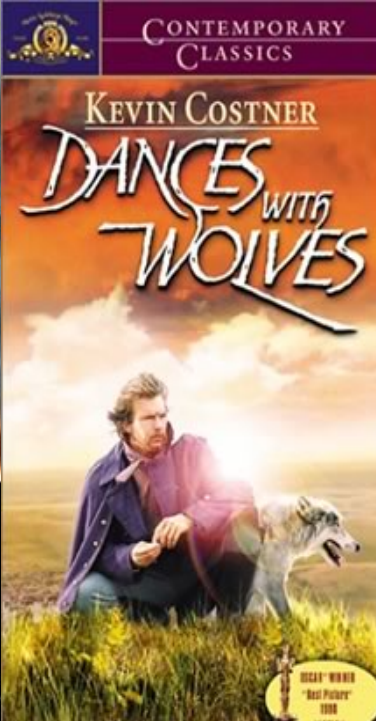
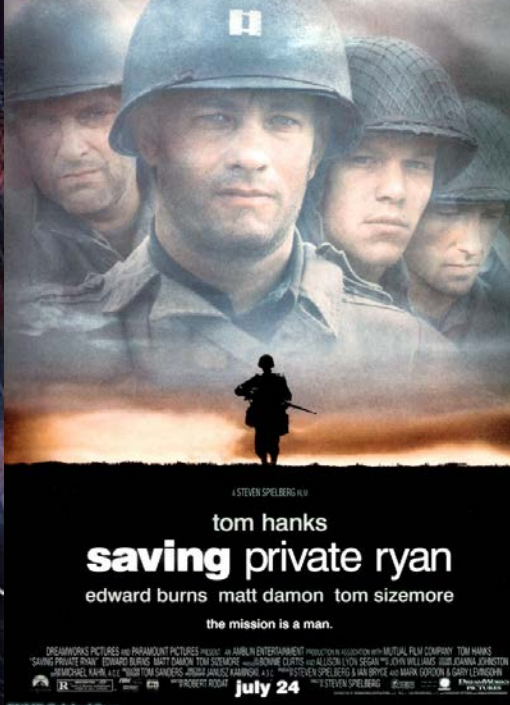
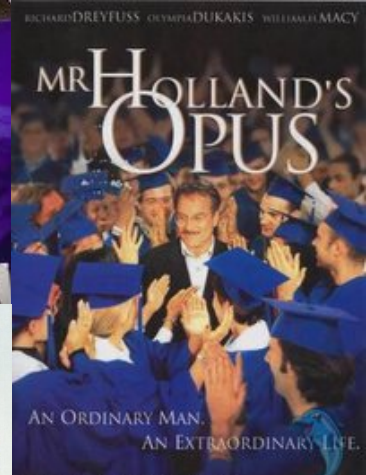
HAUNTED



SIGNS

OF THE TIMES[®]

Hollywood's
Battle
for Your Mind



MAY 26, 2013

Obama's New Boss / Syria face-off McCain vs. Brzezinski / PLUS: Summer's best movies & more

TIME

THE ME ME ME GENERATION

Millennials are lazy, entitled narcissists
who still live with their parents

Why they'll save us all

BY JOEL STEIN



time.com

Generation Me

"Twenge does a huge, decidedly un-GenX amount of research and replaces [hunches] with actual data. . . . [L]ucid and entertaining . . . bold . . . refreshing."

—Chris Colin, author of *What Really Happened to the Class of '93*



Why Today's Young Americans Are More
Confident, Assertive, Entitled—
and More Miserable Than Ever Before

Jean M. Twenge, Ph.D.

It's research covers

- Over six decades
- Involving 1.3 million people
- Showing how this country developed

“Generation Me”

The author Dr. Twenge says...

- Today's young people speak the language of self as their native tongue
- The individual has always come first and feeling good about yourself has always been the primary virtue.
- They are not self-absorbed;
- They are **self-important.**

Dr. Twenge says...

“The society that molds you when you are young stays with you **the rest of your life.**”

Steps to Christ p. 27

The warfare against self, is the greatest battle that was ever fought.

Education p. 225

"Character building is the most important work ever entrusted to human beings; and **never** before was its diligent study so important as now. **Never** was any previous generation called to meet issues so momentous; **never** before were young men and young women confronted by perils so great as confront them today."

It takes three entities to make this happen







Proverbs 4:23

Guard your heart (mind) **above all else**, for **it** determines the course of your life.

Really **Really Really** Good...

CON MAN



Who made this statement?

I believe today
that my conduct is
in accordance
with the will of the
Almighty Creator.



Newtown, Connecticut



Solomon



Prophets and Kings p. 57

He who in his early reign had displayed so much wisdom and sympathy in restoring a helpless babe to its unfortunate mother fell so low as to consent to the erection of an idol to whom living children were offered as sacrifices.

"The heart is deceitful above
all things and desperately
wicked." Jeremiah 17:9



Our own mind will deceive us quicker
and more often than Satan will!





CON MAN

Subtle



**What hope is there
for our youth?**



PATRIARCHS AND PROPHETS P. 91

It is a law of the human mind that by **beholding** we become changed.

Acts of the Apostles p. 519

Those who would not fall a prey to Satan's devices, **must** guard well the avenues of the soul; they **must** avoid **reading**, **seeing**, or **hearing** that which will suggest impure thoughts. The mind **must not** be left to dwell at random upon every subject that the enemy of souls may suggest. **The heart must be faithfully sentineled**, or **evils without will awaken evils within**, and the soul will wander in darkness.



Their hope, as they told us in the Valuegenesis study, is when the...



99%



Counsels to Parents, Teachers and Students p. 166

Only the power of God can save our children from being swept away by the tide of evil. The responsibility resting upon **parents, teachers, and church members**, to do their part in **cooperation with God**, is greater than words can express.

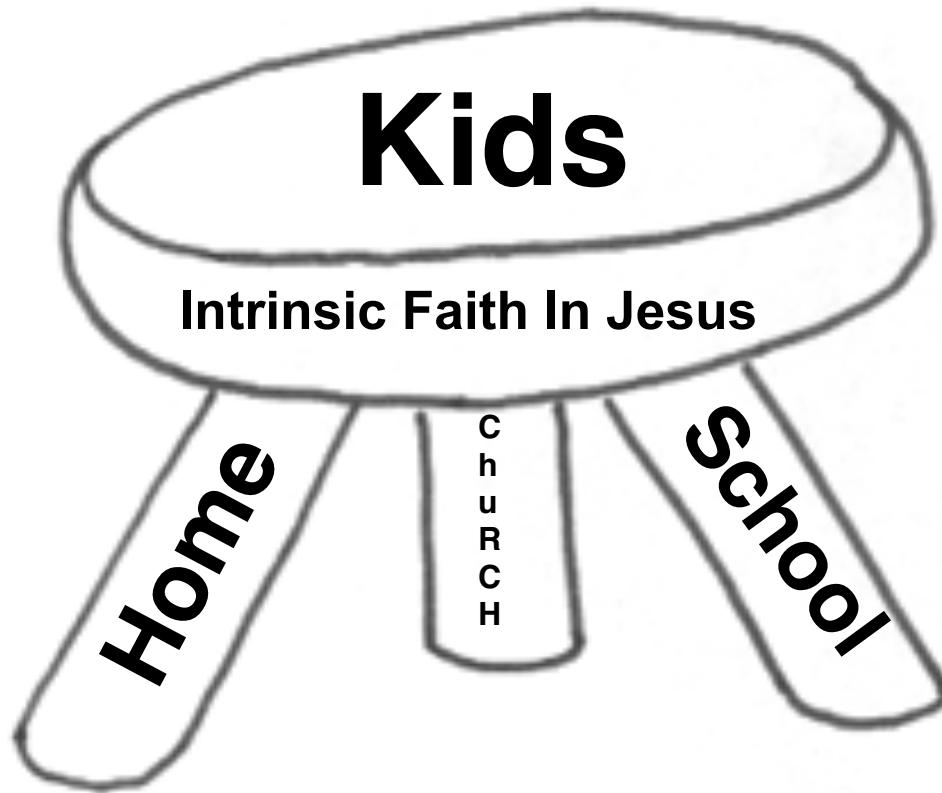
Kids

Intrinsic Faith In Jesus

Home

C
H
U
R
C
H

School





Kids

Intrinsic Faith

Home



Too much importance **cannot** be placed on the early training of children. The lessons that the child learns during the first **seven years** of life have more to do with forming his character than **ALL** that it learns in future years.

Child Guidance p. 193

The influence of a carefully guarded Christian home in the years of childhood and youth is the **SUREST** safeguard against the corruptions of this world.

Adventist Home p. 19

George Barna showed...

By age **13** a child has developed the value system they will die with.

How do parents develop a
Seventh-day Adventist value
system in their children?

Deuteronomy 6:4-7

Hear O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one!

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your might.

And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart;

You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

It's a...

24 hours a day

365 days a year

Evangelistic series...

IN THE HOME!!



Kids

Intrinsic Faith

School

I say to parents today...

If the battle **IS** for the mind...

**It matters where your children
attend school!!**



"They (teachers) are **co-workers with the angels**; rather, they are the human agencies through whom the angels accomplish their mission. **Angels speak through their voices, and work by their hands.**" ED 271



Counsels to Parents Teachers and Students p. 167

The Lord would use the **church school** as an aid to the parents in educating and preparing their children for this time before us. **Nothing is of greater importance** than the education of our children and young people.



180 day evangelistic series every year



The two most successful evangelistic series the Seventh-day Adventist church runs are...



ValueGenesis

There is clear evidence that **the longer** our children remain in Seventh-day Adventist schools the more likely it is that they will **stay in the church.**



Kids

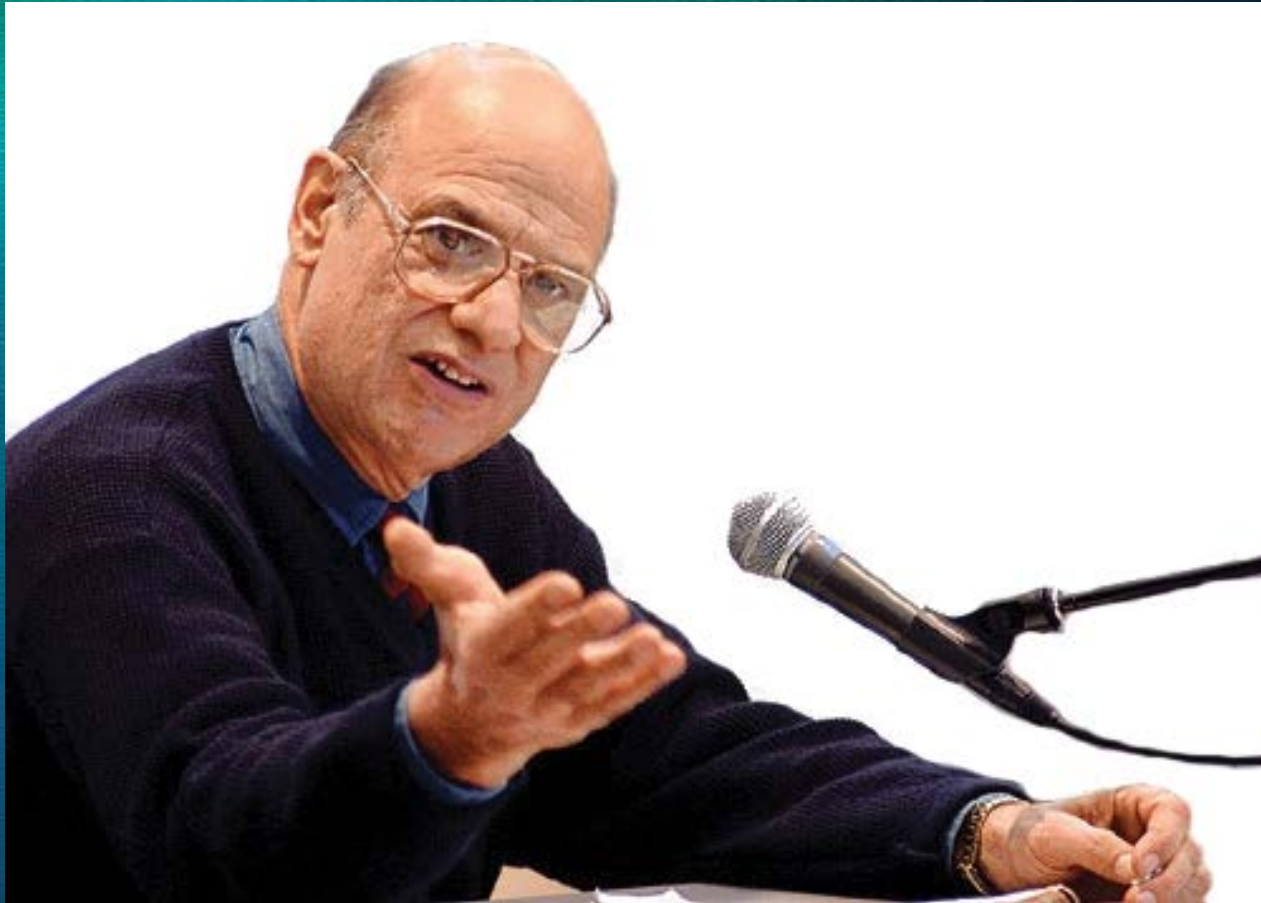
Intrinsic Faith

Church

Councils to Parents, Teachers, and Students p. 165

God has appointed the church as a **watchman**, to have a jealous care over the youth and children, and as a **sentinel** to see the approach of the enemy and **give warning of danger**. But the church does not realize the situation. **She is sleeping on guard.**

Tony Campolo







Why do churches die?



“There were only three conversions in the previous twelve months and they were **JUST** children.”

Just children?!

- One served as a missionary for years in Africa.
- The other became a seminary president.
- I dedicated myself to Christian higher education.

He felt he had his answer as to why that church died:

Because they had the mindset that those new members **“were just kids.”**

THAT WAS THEIR PROBLEM!!

**The Seventh-day Adventist Church
in the U.S. has symptoms of the
same problem.**

**The average age of Seventh-day
Adventist membership in the U.S.**

58

**There are 1000 churches in the
U.S. that have...**

NO CHILDREN!!

If the average age for church members in the U.S. is 58

+ 1000 churches with no children

+ Over 50% of our youth leaving the church

= a challenged and dying church!

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

Use'em
or
Lose'em





LIL PERK

**Youth stay on the bench
because their talents are
unrecognized and unused!**

What can youth do?

Spencer Seventh-day Adventist Church 2015 Officers

Elders

Head - Alvin Gottfried

- Bobby Clark, III

Deacons

Head - Arthur O'Connor 18

- Daniel Titus
- Jess Titus
- Reuben Titus
- Ryan Clark 16

Junior Deacons

- *Caleb Zetko 11
- *David Stoll 12
- *Hayden Zetko 10
- Nathan Clark 14

Deaconesses

Head - Barbara Brock

- Cathy Abbott
- Charity Clark 18
- Deb Glazer
- Heather Zetko
- Joni Jones
- Makalya Przybysz 14
- Marie Gottfried

Leader - Deb Glazer

- Daniel Titus
- Marie Gottfried
- Sarah Carney 18
- Shosheana Zetko 12

Adult SS Teachers

- Alvin Gottfried
- Deb Glazer

S. S. Secretary

Barbara Brock

Earliteen/ Youth/ Young Adult SS

Leader - Bobby Clark, III; April Clark

Primary/ Juniors SS

Leader - Rachel Clark

- *Laura Stoll
- Reba Smith

Cradle Roll/Kindergarten SS

Leader - Charity Clark 18

- Nicole Clark - Kerst 20
- Viola Cook

- Sarah Carney 18
- Shosheana Zetko 12

Junior Deaconesses

- *Cierra Calfy 10
- *Esme Clark 15
- *Nicole Kersh 20

Church Maintenance

- *Charles Brock
- Kris Zetko
- Sean Clark 21
- *Scott Kersh

Treasurer

Head - Lois Stilwell

- Marie Gottfried

Clerk

Cherry Clark 18

Personal Ministries

Leader - Alvin Gottfried

NS Superintendent

Adventurers

Rachel Clark

- Charity Clark 18
- Abigail Clark 19
- *Esme Clark 15
- Makalya Przybysz 14

Pathfinders

April Clark

- Abigail Clark 19
- Sean Clark 21

Youth Activities Organizer

*Nicole Kersh 20

VBS Leader

*Nicole Kersh 20

Prayer Ministry Team

Barbara Brock

- Juddy Johnson

Men's Ministries

Women's Ministries

Peacemaker Team

Leader -- Alvin Gottfried

- Marie Gottfried

Greeters

Coordinator -- Barbara Brock

- Arthur O'Connor 18
- Caleb Zetko 11
- *Charles Brock
- Jess Titus
- Joni Jones
- Nathan Clark 14

- Cathy Abbott
- 18 • Charity Clark
- Heather Zetko
- Joni Jones
- 14 • Makalya Przybysz
- 14 • Moriah Zetko
- 20 • *Nicole Kersh
- 12 • Shoseana Zetko

Social Committee Custodial Supervisor:

- 18 - • Arthur O'Connor
- 18 - • Charity Clark
- 16 - • Ryan Clark
- 18 - • Sarah Carney

Sparta Branch SS

- Ken Smith
- Mary Cole
- Reba Smith

Communication

- Bulletin Secretary – Arthur O'Connor 18
- Church Calendar – Sarah Carney 18
- Facebook – Sarah Carney 18
- Web Master – Sarah Carney 18

Religious Liberty

Alvin Gottfried

Safety Officer

Bobby Clark, III

Music Committee

- Barbara Brock
- Alvin Gottfried
- Deb Glazer
- Sean Clark 21
- Pastor – Harley P. Roth

Pianists & Organists

- Don Stilwell
- Mary Cole
- Reuben Titus
- Viola Cook

Audio Visual

Head – Daniel Titus — *often Absent*
 Sound Engineer – Michael Sherburn

- Arthur O'Connor 18
- Ryan Clark 16 x 2 years

Church Board

- Pastor (Chair) – Harley P. Roth
- Elders – Alvin G., Bobby C., III
- 18- • Head Deacon – Arthur O.
- Head Deaconesses – Barbara B
- Personal Ministry Leader – Alvin G
- Treasurer – Lois S.
- SS Superintendent – Deb G.
- Social Committee Leader – Marie G
- Adventurer Leader – Rachel C.
- Pathfinder Leader – April C.
- 18- • Clerk – Charity C.
- Religious Liberty Leader – Alvin G.
- Safety Officer – Bobby C., III

Sabbath School Council

- Superintendent (Chair) – Deb G.
- Assistant Superintendents – Daniel T., Marie G., Sarah C., Shosheana Z.
- SS Secretary – Barbara B.
- Division Leaders – April C., Bobby C III., Rachel C., Charity C.
- Personal Ministries Leader – Alvin G.
- Elder (appointed by church board or board of elders) – Larry Stilwell
- Pastor

Started Oct 15
Teaching Alone

* Not a member yet

Social Committee

Leader – Marie Gottfried
 Assistant Leader – Deb Glazer

Youth can save churches!





George Barna surveyed 602 teens about where they saw themselves in 10 years in relationship to future religious activity.

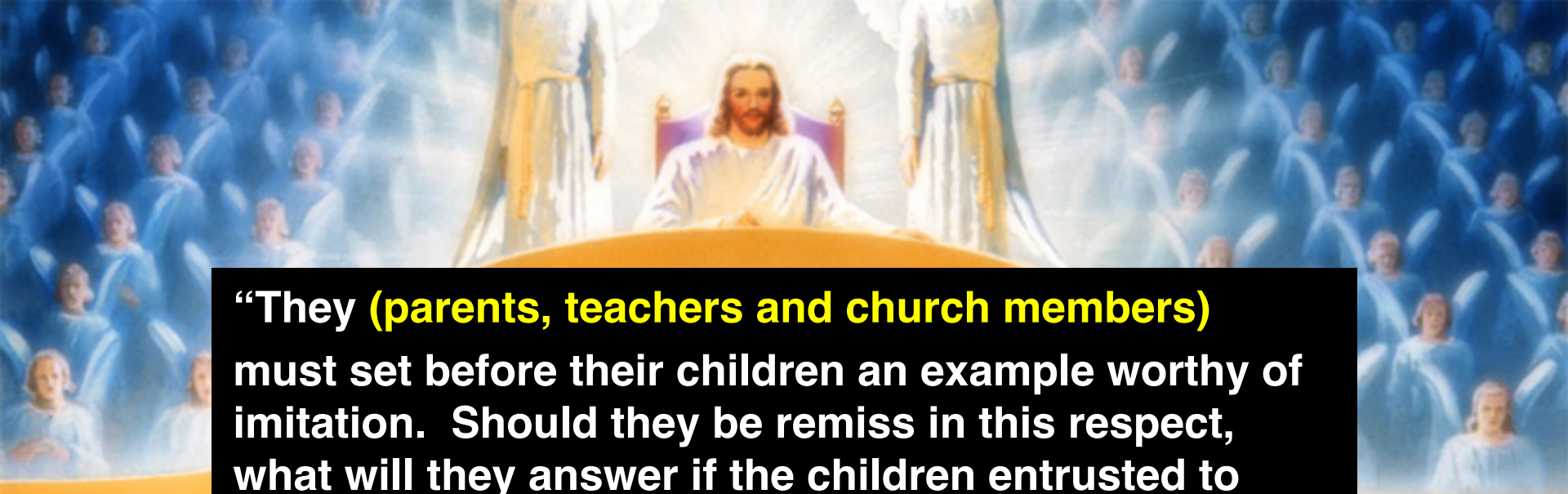
- 60% of the teens surveyed said if I am actively involved in church **NOW** I will still be involved in 10 years.
- Only 14% of those **NOT ACTIVELY INVOLVED** in the church **NOW** said they would be actively involved in 10 years.

SO...

An **engaged future** is
predicated on an **active
present!**

Counsels to Parents, Teachers and Students p. 47

Satan is making earnest, persevering efforts to **corrupt the mind and debase the character of every youth**; and shall we who have more experience **stand as mere spectators**, and see him accomplish his purpose without hindrance? **Let us stand at our post as minutemen**, to work for these youth, and through the help of God to hold them back from the pit of destruction.



“They (parents, teachers and church members) must set before their children an example worthy of imitation. Should they be remiss in this respect, what will they answer if the children entrusted to them stand before the bar of heaven as witnesses to their neglect?” (Councils to Parents, Teachers, and Students p. 129)



What are your hopes, your dreams, your prayers for our young people?









Romans 15:1-2

Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us. Strength is for service, not status. Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, “How can I help?”

That's exactly what Jesus did.

What can I do?

1. Each adult learn the names of **two young people** and welcome them to church **every** week.
2. Choose a young person to **personally mentor** and get to know them.
3. Ensure that youth are involved in the **mission** and **management** of **THIS** church.

If we don't TEACH
our children
TO FOLLOW
CHRIST,
the world will teach
them not to.





Romans 12:2 NLT

Don't copy the customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by **changing the way you think.**



