

Educating For Eternity

All education of young people deals with matters of ultimate concern. Christianity is widely rejected merely because it *claims* to be true. What accounts for this bizarre and growing consensus? It is called *post-modernism*. Postmodern thinking is a reaction against modernism as well as a transition into a new epoch.

A. Challenges we face in a post modern culture

1. Historical Overview:

Pre Modern Period 1 to 1650 AD

1-500 _____

500-1500 _____

1500-1650 _____

Modern Period 1650 to 1950 AD

Post Modern Period 1950 to ??? AD

2. Defining Influences:

- a. The _____ era symbolized by the preacher who spoke truth from the Bible, to the _____ era where truth was mediated to the culture by the scientist who validated it in research, to the _____ era where truth is whatever anyone wants it to be symbolized by the passion and pessimism of the rock musician.
- b. This has resulted in the _____ of the family.
- c. Disintegration of hope.
- d. Dismissal of truth.

3. Behavioral Patterns:

- a. A lack of deferred _____.

- b. A _____ with self.
- c. A sound-bite lifestyle and low level of _____.
- d. A confused _____ identity.

(Much of the above from Douglas McLachlan, *Generation X*. Leith Anderson, *Dying for Change*. Gary L. McIntosh, *Three Generations*.)

B. Truths that must be taught to every generation

1. There is eternal truth and it can be known.
John 14:6; Proverbs 1:7
2. Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior of those who will believe.
Luke 13:3; John 1:12
3. This world is passing, so we must balance temporal needs with eternal goals. I John 2:15-17
4. The same grace that saves us gives us the ability to say “no” to our sinful desires. Titus 2:11,12
5. False teaching must be recognized and rejected. Col. 2:8; II Cor. 10:3,4

The education of your children (and grandchildren) is one of the most important stewardship you have received from God. Choose wisely.