

Emerging Adult Ministry

Presenter: Pastor Bill Nieuwenhuis - Classis Alberta North Youth Consultant

Time Commitment:

The presentation takes 45 minutes plus time for questions and reflections.

Intended Audience:

Youth Leaders, Church Youth Councils or Committees, Church Councils or congregations as a whole.

Materials:

Power Point Presentation.

Synopsis:

This presentation addresses ministry to emerging adults in the life of the Church today. Researcher Rick Hiemstra with the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada took a look at the state of faith in regard to young and emerging adults in Canada in recent years. Through many interviews and much information gathering he has come to some important conclusions. The Church in Canada needs to understand and address the way it relates to those who have finished high school and have moved on in their lives into young adulthood.

Rick suggests that the church needs to “renegotiate” the relationship between it and emerging adults because of the changed nature of our society. His research indicates that young adults are taking longer to marry, finish their higher levels of education and getting fully employed. These changes and others (digital world) have had an effect on their view of faith and the Church.

The information presented will examine the discipling process the church has traditionally used and point out areas where change can be applied. The present state of faith for young adults should be seen as a new opportunity for the Church to make disciples for Jesus. In addition to the presentation strategies will be suggested and areas of opportunity examined for the Church in Canada to renegotiate the faith relationship between young and old.