

## **NextGen**

*Week #1 - Leave the 99 — In Mt. 18, Jesus warned against leading kids to sin or looking down on them. Even more importantly, he told a story about a desperate shepherd who was not willing that even a single lamb be lost. Application—While it's easy to stereotype and look down on other generations (in both directions!), our Father has a massive heart for those that are unlike you. Which is good news, because it means that he has a massive heart for you!*

### **Gen Z (iGen) = 1995-2012**

Internet -  
In no hurry -  
Inclusive -  
Independent -  
Insecure -

### **iGen = 1995-2012**

Lots of information  
Lots of connections  
Lots of stimulation  
Lots of sin

NextGen = Generation **different**

- Matthew 19:13,14 - *“Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, because the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”*

NextGen = Generation **disappearing**

- Matthew 18:1-5 - *At that time the disciples approached Jesus and asked, “Who then is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” 2 Jesus called a little child, had him stand in the middle of them, 3 and said, “Amen I tell you: Unless you are turned and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Whoever humbles himself like this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5 And whoever receives a little child like this one in my name receives me. (EHV)*
- Matthew 18:6-7 - *“But, if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a huge millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. 7 Woe to the world because of temptations to sin. Temptations must come, but woe to that person through whom the temptation comes!*

- Matthew 18:10-14 - *See to it that you do not look down on one of these little ones, because I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. 11 For the Son of Man came to save what was lost. 12 “What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go looking for the one that wandered away? 13 If he finds it—Amen I tell you—he rejoices more over that one sheep than over the ninety-nine that did not wander away. 14 In the same way, your Father in heaven does not want even one of these little ones to perish. (EHV)*

### NextGen = Generation **Loved**

- 1 Timothy 2:3-5 - *This is good and pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who wants all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus*
- Psalm 102:12,18 - *But you, Lord, sit on your throne forever, and you will be remembered through all generations...Let this be written till the last generation, so that a people not yet created may praise the Lord.*

### **Points To Ponder**

1. Discuss why the following statement is important when it comes to reaching the NextGen at 922 Ministries, “Seek first to understand before you can be understood.” What 1 thing will you implement over the next 4 weeks to do this better with someone who is apart of the NextGen?
2. Have you found yourself judging the NextGen and their behaviors? Have you seen it impact your relationships with your children or grandchildren who are the age? If so, how?
3. Revisit Jesus words in Matthew 18 and answer the following 3 questions;
  - a. What in this section makes breaks God’s heart that I need to repent of?
  - b. What in this section gives me joy in God and his grace?
  - c. What in this section do I want to change/do to serve God and the NextGen?

*Homework: Deuteronomy 6*