

Age of Opportunity

Lesson 10

BIG IDEA: We must teach our teens how to _____ with culture _____.

RHETORICAL QUESTION: In what ways is your teen being influenced by culture and how do you respond to that influence biblically?

- One of the essential skills our teens must develop is _____ - “an understanding of the way the spiritual _____ is played out in the _____ in which we live.” (Tripp, pg. 141)
 1. Culture is made of the _____, _____, institutions, structures, _____, products and _____ that make up the nature of our existence.
 2. Culture is “the set of _____ attitudes, values, goals, and practices that _____ an institution, organization, or group.” (Wikipedia)
- Two typical responses to culture – isolation or assimilation.
 1. The basic philosophy of isolation is “_____ is in the thing ... so _____ the thing.”
 2. The basic philosophy of assimilation is “Things are _____ ... there’s no harm in _____ in the thing.”

What’s wrong/right about each response?
- 3. “The struggle with culture is _____ and it is always _____.” (Tripp, pg. 147)
- Understanding the influence of culture will help our teens live _____, _____, and _____.

- | | | |
|-------|---------------|--|
| _____ | Relativism | A. Goal of life is experiencing pleasure and no recognition of spiritual world |
| _____ | Individualism | B. No higher authority than self or no responsibility to a higher authority |
| _____ | Emotionalism | C. Each person determines what is right/wrong for them |
| _____ | Materialism | D. No sense of personal responsibility; “I am my experiences” |
| _____ | Autonomy | E. Feelings the most influential, most important indicator of right/wrong |
| _____ | Victimism | F. No higher goal than my own happiness and pleasure |

Responding to Culture: A Plan for Our Teenagers

- Matthew 5:13-16 ... “assimilators” lose their _____, and “isolators” hide their _____.
- **Five strategies** for preparing our teens to interact redemptively with the culture around them:
 1. Instill in our teenagers a biblical _____ of life through consistent exposure to biblical _____.

Besides the church ministries or Christian school, what are other ways to expose our teens to biblical truth?
 2. _____ and _____ the surrounding culture from a biblical perspective, not personal taste.
 3. _____ with the culture, but only agree with its interpretations and _____ if they agree with Scripture.
 4. Allow teens to be participants in the _____ process as they display more and more _____.
 5. Encourage our teens to be _____ witnesses to biblical truth and _____ voices of righteousness.

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