

Project Probe Ministries

Sex, Sexuality and Homosexuality: Engaging the Truth

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Youth: Ministering to youth and young adults



Introduction

Young people ages 13-21 are exposed to more sexual imagery, drug celebration, and rebellious attitudes than ever before. The harvest of this bitter seed has produced sexual “freedom”, skyrocketing drug addictions, murder of parents, loss of respect for human life (abortion), suicide and a host of other life devaluing conditions. Anyone can see that the youth of the church have not been exempt. There is a definite crisis facing this oncoming generation!

I. Understanding ministry

Ministry, in its most basic meaning is to meet a need. Ministry is always the appropriate response to sinful conditions, no matter how it is framed by society. Ministry is comprehensive and generally is birthed out of a personal call from God to an individual(s) who themselves have been affected in some way by the issue. The obvious question is: do youth and young people need ministry in response to the homosexual condition? The answer is yes!

Ministering to youth can be fruitless without being able to appropriately know where a young person is in their struggle with homosexuality. One researcher (Troiden) determined that there are four stages of development of homosexual identity sensitization, identity confusion, identity assumption and commitment. These developmental stages are age sensitive.

II. Weaving ministry into everyday life

- a. Reinforce and encourage Godly identity profiles
- b. Reinforce and affirm birth gender
- c. Use pop culture as teachable moments
- d. Talk openly about sexual issues (homosexual and heterosexual)
- e. Churches should show real concern for sexual issue among youth
- f. Take nothing for granted!

III. Preparing kids for peer ministry

Kids listen to other kids. Prepare peer leaders within the church to reach, educate and motivate young people on how to seek Godly solutions to sexual issues.

Additional Resource:

<http://www.troubledwith.com>

<http://www.becomingreal.org>