

Millennial Parents of Faith & What You Need to Know

Re-evaluating what we know about Generation Alpha's greatest influencers

Hi!
I'm Michayla.

Stephen and I are Millennials.
And we're parents... obviously.



What about you?

- SHARE ONE THING YOU KNOW TO BE TRUE ABOUT MILLENNIALS.

PORTRAIT OF A MILLENNIAL



WHO ARE THEY?

- 1980's – Mid 1990's
- Their parents were Boomers
- Represent over a quarter of the nation's population
- Most diverse generation
- Highly educated
- Digital Natives

THE BACK STORY



THE BACK STORY



Y2K



Spiritual Life

- Nomads, Prodigals, Nones



What about Millennial parents?

Specifically Millennial parents of faith...



THE NUMBERS

**NUMBER OF MILLENNIALS
THAT ARE MOMS ALREADY?**

16.2 MILLION

BOOMER OR MILLENNIAL?

- “I believe our number one goal is to make sure our children come to know and have a relationship with their Lord. I believe that current culture can definitely sway them or make them see things as less black and white and a little more gray.”

BOOMER OR MILLENNIAL?

- “The lack of fear of God in culture is concerning. I'm raising my boys to love and fear the Lord and everything in society is telling them they should only live for themselves and put self first.”

BOOMER OR MILLENNIAL?

- “Lack of moral values and blatant disregard in respecting authority of all kinds (parents, any adults, teachers, government).”



SAY WHAT?!

THEY WERE ALL **MILLENNIAL** PARENTS.

YOUR MISSION:
FIND OUT
WHO YOU ARE
TRYING TO REACH

BECAUSE THE REST OF THE WORLD IS ALREADY TRYING.

Write down the names of as many of the Millennial parents in your ministry that you can think of.

What do you know to be true of these parents?

CONCERN & HOPE

MILLENNIAL PARENTS
OF FAITH



SURVEY

- 74 PARENTS
- 91% CONSIDER THEMSELVES DEVOTED FOLLOWERS OF JESUS
- 96% ARE MARRIED
- 72% HAVE MORE THAN ONE CHILD
- 74% ARE EMPLOYED FT OR PT

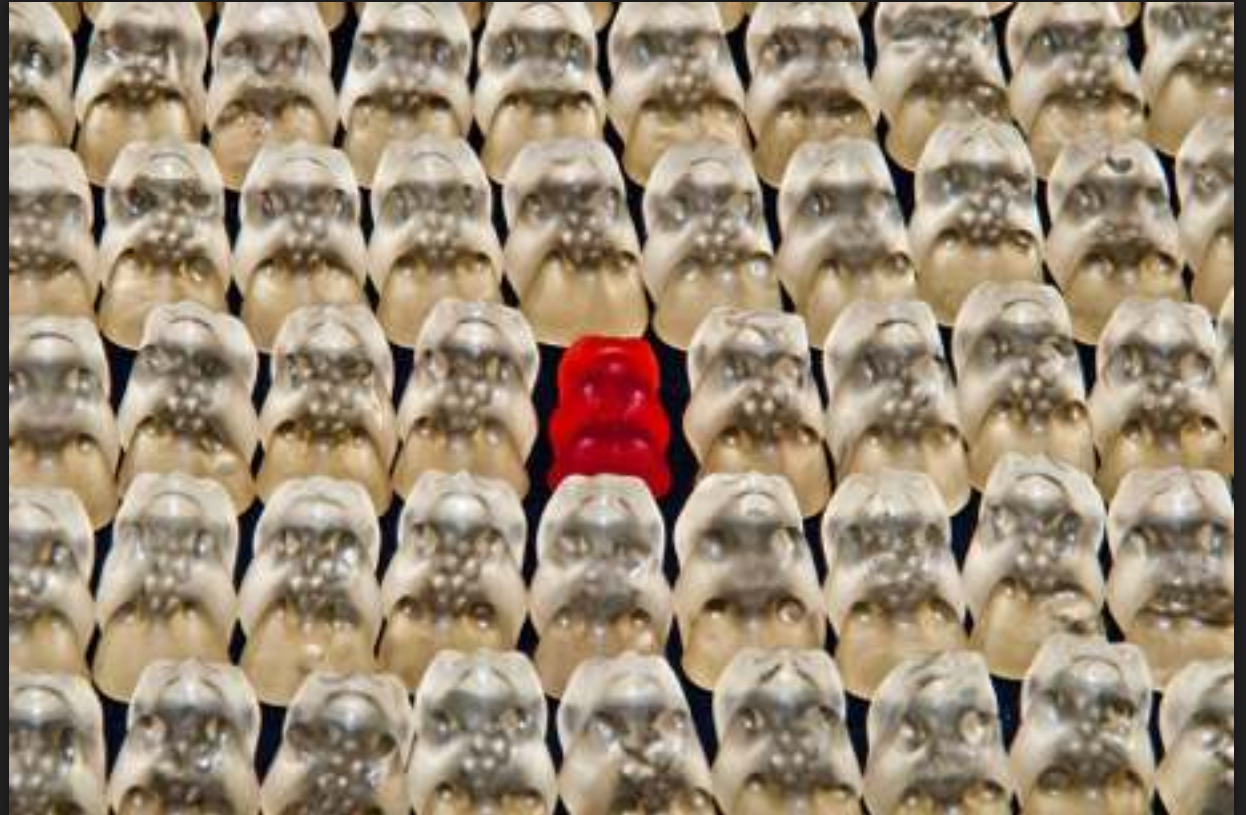


- 49% of Millennial parents do **not** identify themselves with the Millennial generation



37%

MILLENNIAL PARENTS WHO FELT THAT
CULTURE HAS A GOOD UNDERSTANDING
OF MILLENNIALS AS A GENERATION



MICRO-GENERATIONS

"We are far different than any other generation... and because of the complexities of this generation, **plus the micro-generation that exists within it**, there are differentiations even between the **beginning** of the generation and the **latter** portion."

57%

FEEL LIKE THEIR CALENDAR IS FULL,
BUT THAT THEY'RE MANAGING IT OK
AS A FAMILY UNIT.



70%

Children are
under 1-3 years
old





72%

As a parent, I feel like I have a close support system or community that strengthens my ability to parent and positively influence my family.



31%

**I have very few insecurities
about my ability to parent
my children**



49%

As a parent, I am sometimes overwhelmed by differing opinions on how to care for or raise my children.



69%

I utilize social media to discover information about topics related to parenting (baby equipment, education, resources, products, etc.).

FAITH FORMATION

- 74% grew up in a home that valued faith in God
- 95% **My faith is important to me, and it influences how I parent**



91%

**I consider myself to be a
devoted follower of Jesus**



85%

**I make church
attendance a priority.**



31% Highly Agree
34% Agree

**My church is one of
the biggest supports to
me as a parent.**



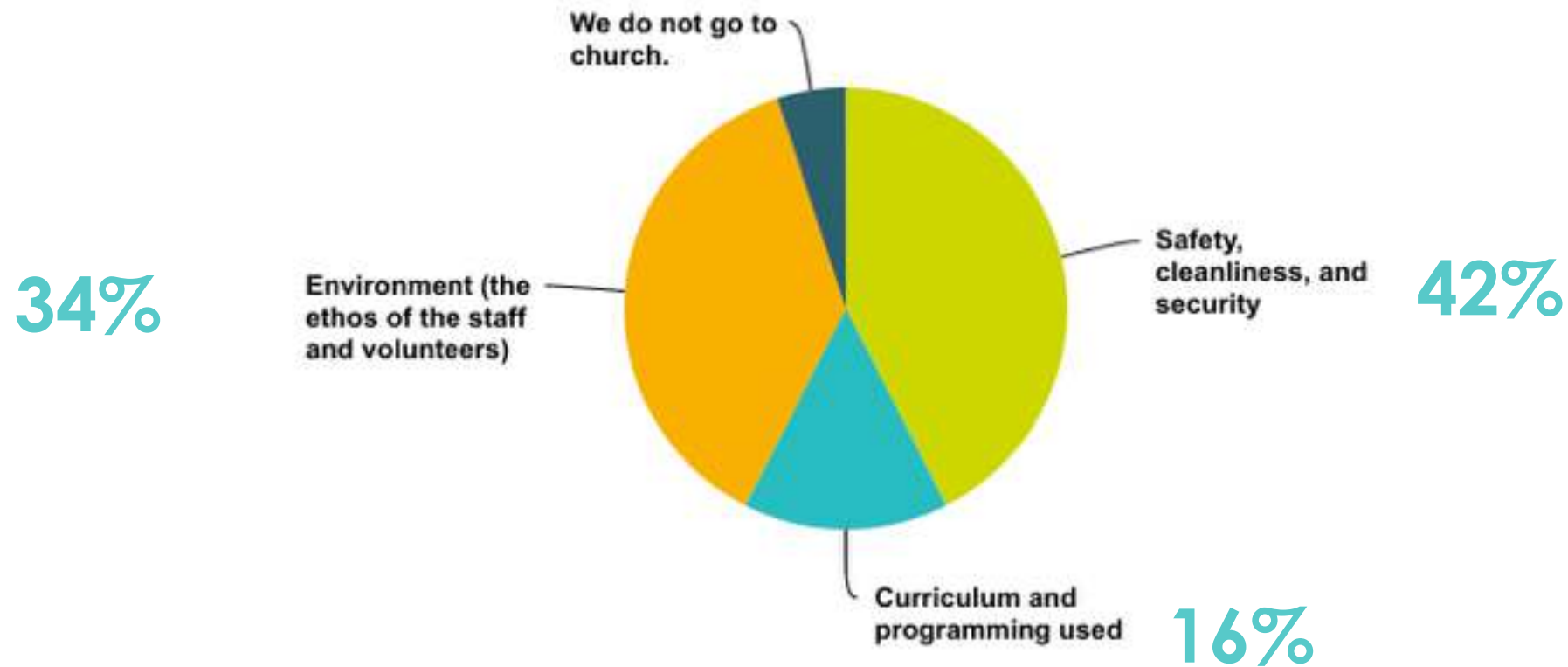
28% Highly Agree
35% Agree

**I make reading my Bible
regularly a priority.**



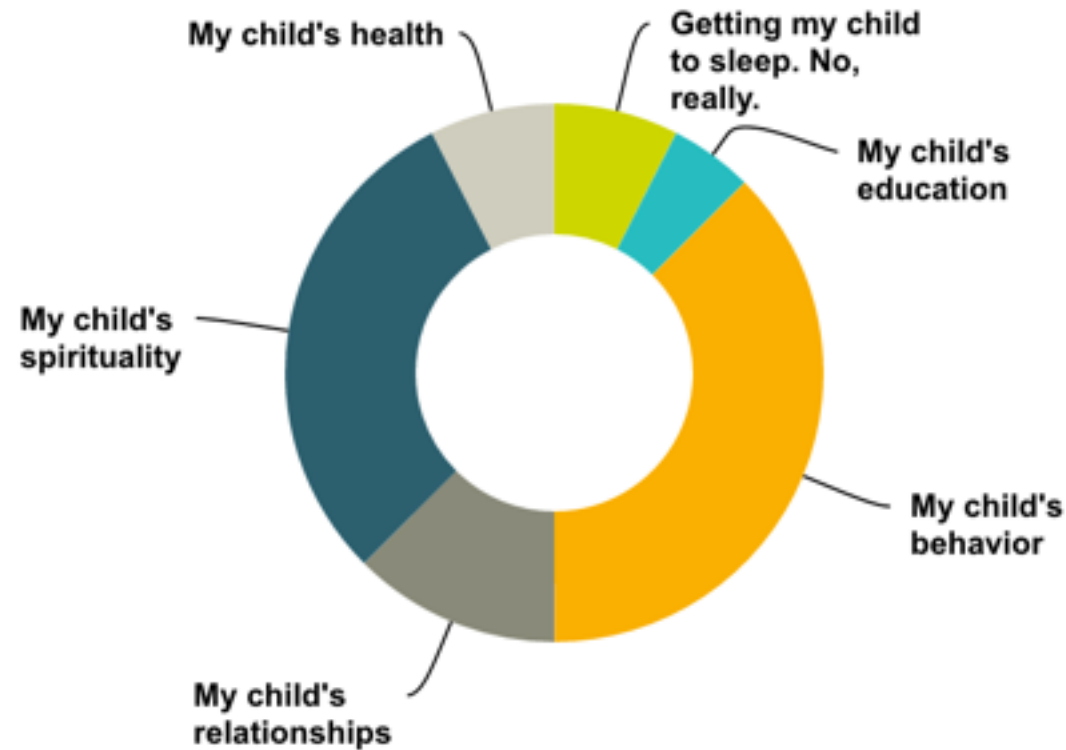
93%

It is very important to me that my children grow up to know, love, and serve Jesus Christ.



As you're visiting a church, when it comes to the children's ministry, you are most concerned about...

22%



38%

14%

As a parent, when it comes to raising your children, you are most concerned about...

When asked to share what most concerns them about culture today, and how it impacts their kids...

"The normalizing of sinful behavior and thought patterns. Things that have always been wrong are now considered right and we are criticized for holding to traditional values. Our kids are and will be bombarded by many loud opinions, but we pray that God's Word will be their solid, steady foundation."

"I am concerned that culture will tell my child that God doesn't exist or the Bible isn't true. I am concerned that their friends will ask them to do things that are against our values."

"The worldly beliefs that disagree with the Bible that are being taught as truth. Hard for 6 & 8 year old to go through."

"I am concerned about how to balance traditional values and the current culture. I worry that allowing my children to participate in current culture will take them away from God. I also worry that if I am too strict, they will not relate to anyone or they will rebel."

When asked what they are most hopeful for right now about the current culture and how it impacts their children's future...

“The art of relationship is slowly starting to re-emerge and many people of my generation are trading their technology for meaningful interactions.”

“I am hopeful that the value of authenticity and the importance of intergenerational worship will continue to grow.”

“I believe our kids have the opportunity to do incredible things like obliterate poverty. But most of all, they will be ones who have the awesome (weighty) opportunity to stand for Jesus in a culture that is increasingly opposed to Him. My hope for them is they are lights in the darkness.”

“Light has a greater impact when it is darkest. As the culture becomes more unlike Jesus we as followers of Jesus have the ability to be seen”

What it means to them to be a parent....

"It is the greatest honor and responsibility. I could not shoulder the weight if I were not anchored in Christ. I know that all the ways I want to grow as a mother will only happen if I grow in my own personal walk with Jesus."

"It means the privilege and responsibility to teach a developing human being what it means to be human and to be made in the image of God. I also get to experience the unexplainable love a parent has for his child and vice versa. Overall, it's just amazing to be entrusted with this responsibility and feel like I can make a difference in the world through the raising of my children."

"My husband and I have been given the awesome opportunity to raise up these children to serve God. We are doing what we see as right and do our best to prayerfully seek God's wisdom in all we do, even when it seems to not make sense to others."



NOW WHAT?

YOU + MILLENNIAL PARENTS

- 5 WAYS TO
CONNECT WITH
MILLENNIAL
PARENTS OF
FAITH

INVITE THEM IN

- COFFEE CONNECTION
- HAVE THEM OVER FOR DINNER
- MEET-UPS IN THEIR SPACES



CARE ABOUT THEIR MARRIAGE

- DATE NIGHTS
- CONNECT THEM TO OTHER COUPLES
- NOTICE AND ENCOURAGE



LOVE THEIR KIDS

- CARE ABOUT HOW VOLUNTEERS GREET THEM AND INTERACT WITH THEM
- SAFETY AND SECURITY
- SHARE SPECIFICS OF WHAT YOU LOVE ABOUT THEIR CHILD/REN



ALLOW THEM TO INSPIRE YOU

- ASK FOR THEIR IDEAS
- REFLECT WHAT YOU ARE HEARING FROM THEM
- IMPLEMENT THEIR IDEAS WITH (!) THEM



RESOURCE THEM

- CONNECT THEM TO GOD
- CONNECT THEM TO EACH OTHER
- CONNECT THEM TO TOOLS

