

IMPACT YOUTH MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 18, 2011

REACH UP, REACH HIGHER, REACH OUT

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Money Due Sunday!



Hershey Bears Hockey

Faith Night

December 11, 2011 (Sunday)

Cost: \$20.00

Free Concert with "New Method"



DON'T FORGET!!

Volleyball Tournament in Greencastle, Pa

This Sunday Night

Meet at the Church at 4pm

Movie & Music Reviews

“Immortals”



Rated: R

Starring: Cavill and Rourke

- Blood/Gore: Extreme
- Profanity: None
- Sex/Nudity: Extreme
- Violence: Extreme

“J. Edger”



Rated: R

Starring: DiCaprio and Hammer

- Blood/Gore: Moderate
- Profanity: Heavy
- Sex/Nudity: Moderate
- Violence: Heavy

“Jack and Jill”

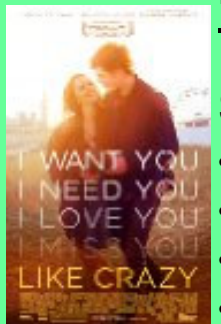


Rated: PG

Starring: Sandler and Holmes

- Blood/Gore: Heavy
- Profanity: Mild
- Sex/Nudity: Moderate
- Violence: Moderate

“Like Crazy”

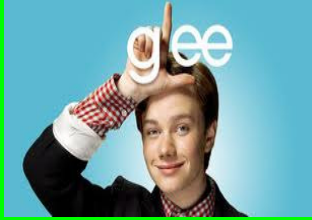


Rated: PG-13

Starring: Yelchin and Jones

- Blood/Gore: None
- Profanity: Heavy
- Sex/Nudity: Heavy
- Violence: None

Youth Culture News



"Teens are having sex. There's not that much you can do to stop it, and we're just showing a story about it. ... It's about an experience in these teen's lives that everyone has."

—*Glee* actor **Chris Colfer**, who portrays one of the homosexual teens who lost his virginity in last week's episode of Fox's hit show [insidetv.ew.com, 11/6/11]



"The fact that *Glee* intends to not only broadcast but celebrate children having sex is reprehensible. The gender of the high school characters involved is irrelevant. Teen sex is now more prevalent on TV than adult sex, and *Glee* is only playing into that trend. Research proves that television is a teen sexual super peer that can, and likely will, influence a teen's decision to become sexually active. Fox knows the show inherently attracts kids; celebrating teen sex constitutes gross recklessness." Parents Television Council president **Tim Winter** [insidetv.ew.com, 11/8/11]



In what is likely to be a much talked-about report, a study led by a [Harvard Medical School](#) and [Brigham and Women's Hospital](#). **Latest from The Business Journals biostatistician has found that drinking alcohol as a teenager may increase the risk of developing breast cancer later on, for women with the disease in their families.** The study is being published in [CANCER](#), a peer-reviewed journal of the [American Cancer Society](#) "Our study suggests that adolescent females already at higher risk for breast cancer, in light of their family history, should be aware that avoiding alcohol may reduce their risk for benign breast disease as young women, which might be accompanied by reduced breast cancer risk later in life" Berkey said in a statement. www.bizjournals.com/boston/news/2011/11/14/breast-cancer-alcohol-teenagers.html

Teen Role Models: Who They Are, Why They Matter

The Question...The nationwide sample of teenagers asked 13- to 17-year-olds to identify the person whom they admire most today as a role model, other than their parents. A follow-up question probed the reasons they define that person as a role model. (David Kinnaman, who directed the study, explained that parents were left out of the assessment because so many teenagers—particularly younger ones—have high regard for their parents or feel compelled to list their parents as role models. Previous research shows that mentioning parents is almost an automatic response for many.)

The "Who"...So who do teenagers name as their role models? Even while limiting the answers to non-parents, family members still comes out on top. The most commonly mentioned role model is a relative—37% of teens named a relation other than their parent as the person they admire most. This is typically a grandparent, but also includes sisters, brothers, cousins, aunts, and uncles....After "family," teens mention teachers and coaches (11%), friends (9%), and pastors or other religious leaders they know personally (6%). www.barna.org/teens-next-gen-articles/467-teen-role-models

Does The Way We Affirm Teenagers Hinder Them?

November 14, 2011 By: [Kara Powell](#)

A few years ago, I heard about some research conducted by Stanford University's (go Andrew Luck! Sorry, couldn't resist) [Carol Dweck](#) on the effects of our affirmation on children and teenagers. More specifically, the relationship between the types of words we use and the way they invite, or don't invite, teenagers to continue to grow.

As this [Harvard Business Review blog](#) well summarizes the heart of Dweck's research: **One study primed people with a simple phrase praising their intelligence based on completing a difficult task rather than the effort they put in to achieving the task by saying "You're so smart," versus "You must have worked hard."** This simple statement had the "smart" ones less willing to take learning risks in the future, as well protecting their status by lying. In fact, those praised for intelligence were found to be three times more likely to lie about their performance than those praised for effort.

As soon as Dave and I read Dweck's study, we started to talk more with our own children about "hard work" than their accomplishments. Whether it be soccer or spelling, we talk with our kids about how proud we are of how hard they tried, not the end result of their efforts. Our hope is that our kids realize how important it is to keep trying, to keep growing.

As the recent HBR blog points out, this research can also be applied to organizations to help them develop a growth mindset.

Can organizations develop a growth mindset? One research project showed it's possible by developing a workshop around mindset. It began with an article and video on how the brain grows with learning throughout life. Participants are then asked, "What's an area where you once had low ability but now perform quite well? How were you able to make this change?" or "Who is someone in your life who has dramatically improved their performance? How did they do it?" Participants were then asked to draft an email to an employee who was doing well and then struggled.

After the workshop, these managers exhibited more openness to critical feedback, willingness to mentor — and a higher quality of mentoring — and openness to the possibility of employees' changing.

This research begs the question: what can we do in our ministries and our families to help ourselves, and the other members, lean into growth? What questions can we ask? What qualities can we affirm?

The next time you're having a great conversation with a teenager or another leader, what questions can you ask them that might help them think more about how they can keep growing? How can you affirm their faithful effort? ©2011

Fuller Youth Institute

fulleryouthinstitute.org/2011/11/does-the-way-we-affirm-teenagers-hinder-them/

10 Tips to Active Listening

Posted By: Youth Specialties on November 09 2011

1. Be committed.

Don't walk away before there's a natural conclusion to the conversation.

2. Don't be a problem solver.

Even if you have the perfect solution that can end the conversation quickly, wait. And then some more.

3. Pay attention to your non-verbal language.

How are you standing/sitting? Do you have a glazed look on your face?

4. Keep listening!

Avoid the temptation to daydream or to prepare a mental "To Do" list while listening.

5. Listen with love.

Have a positive attitude during the conversation. This is not an interruption in your day but an opportunity to reflect God's love during His day.

6. Clarify what is being said.

Don't pretend to know what the speaker is talking about if you don't. Don't be afraid to ask speaker to repeat something that you didn't hear or to clarify when needed.

7. Repeat what was said.

Show you're listening by reiterating what you heard the person say and how she feels.

8. Prove you're listening.

When appropriate, nod, smile, congratulate, comment, etc.

9. Wait your turn.

Don't compose what you're going to say while someone else is speaking. Stay focused on what is being said – you'll have time to get your thoughts together.

10. Look at the person!

Nothing is as insulting as having a conversation with someone who looks everywhere and at everyone but at you.

youthspecialties.com/blog/10-tips-to-active-listening



70 Million Americans Feel Held Back by their Past

In the middle of the economic recession and the Occupy Wall Street protests, residents' economic mood and outlook has been well documented. Yet, underlying emotional and identity factors are often overlooked, such as whether Americans feel they are fulfilling their own personal potential or not. A new study by Barna Group examines these kinds of indicators, looking at how Americans think about their lives these days. Four characteristics of millions of residents emerged from the survey.

1. One-third of Americans are struggling to live to their "fullest potential." One out of every three adults in this country say they are not living life to their fullest potential, including those who say they are "not at all" (6%) or "not much" (26%). A slim majority of adults (57%) feel they are "mostly" fulfilling their potential, while about one out of eight (12%) feel "completely" fulfilled. Those most likely to feel they are fulfilling their potential include Elders (ages 65-plus), practicing Christians, and Bible readers.

Interestingly, education was correlated with fulfillment, but only to a certain point: college graduates were some of the least dissatisfied, but they were also some of the least likely to feel completely fulfilled. *A similar pattern emerged with regard to personal economics: the wealthiest Americans were some of the most likely to give extreme responses, either very fulfilled or very unfulfilled.*

2. Seventy million Americans feel held back by their past. Overall, 70 million Americans (31% of adults) feel "held back or defined by something in their past." This

perception was most commonly expressed by younger adults, blacks, divorced adults, unmarried individuals, and those who have some college experience but never completed their degree. **Those with a practicing faith were among the least likely to feel defined or held back by their past.** Lower-income households were more likely than average (38%) to feel defined by their past, though 25% of higher-income households were also likely to share this perception.

3. Nearly 70 million Americans are dealing with emotional conflict.

When asked if they are dealing with unresolved emotional pain or conflict in life, three out of 10 adults (30%) confirm this description is a present reality for them. This perception was most common among lower-income adults, divorcees, women, and those with no faith allegiance. Married adults, Elders, men, and **practicing Christians** were the least likely to be dealing with unresolved emotional conflict.

4. One-sixth of Americans are wrestling with the role of church and religion.

In total, 15% of Americans said their experiences with religion have caused them to question God, a sentiment that was most common among twentysomethings, college graduates, unmarried adults, non-Christians, and unchurched adults. Similarly, 16% of Americans said they have been hurt by experiences in churches. This perception was most common among women, Boomers (the generation born between 1946 and 1964), and divorced adults.

Conclusions

David Kinnaman, president of the Barna Group, directed the survey. He pointed out: "In recent weeks the Occupy Wall Street movement has focused on the economic gap between the wealthiest one percent of the population and the remaining 99 percent. As others have observed this movement reflects a mix of anti-institutionalism and disillusionment with the economy, government and financial industry.

"But perhaps Americans' growing dissatisfaction with institutions is more influenced than they realize by their own personal expectations and experiences. **While people are increasingly skeptical of external forces, like religion and government, the research shows that internal doubts about fulfillment, faith, emotion and personal history significantly define millions of the nation's residents.**"

www.barna.org/culture-articles/532-70-million-americans-feel-held-back-by-their-past (November 3, 2011)