

WEBINAR DISCUSSION GUIDE

2017 LCMS STUDY OF YOUNG ADULTS YOUNG ADULT SURVEY – IMPACT OF PARENTS AND HOME CHURCH

1. Having heard this data, what is your first gut reaction?
2. How have you experienced the impact of parents on faith?
3. How can congregations help train and empower adults to have faith conversations, including questions and doubts, at home? How can we share the importance of these conversations?
4. Maybe you have heard people say “If you get the kids interested, parents will come.” The idea is that parents will engage if their children show excitement for programs like Sunday School or VBS. This data seems to flip that idea. Children are engaged (and stay engaged), if parents are attending and leading. How do we impress on parents the importance of their own faith life, worship, and leadership on their children?
5. Would you say your congregation is a safe place for young people to struggle? If so, why? If not, what changes can you help create that environment?
6. How are you systematically surrounding young people with other faithful Christians who can build real and authentic relationships with them?
7. Pastors can have a powerful influence on young people for good or for bad. How can we best support our pastors and help them to be a positive impact in the lives of young people?
8. Young people are watching how the church deals with conflict and struggle. If you were a young person watching your church, what impression would that leave? How does your approach to conflict change when you know young people are watching?
9. What factors do you think lead to young adults feeling ill prepared to share their faith?
10. What creates a positive environment for “making disciples” of those baptized or connected in your congregation?