

RESILIENT DISCIPLES



Resilient Disciples: Practice 3 – Forging Meaningful Relationships

GETTING STARTED

We are more connected to one another than at any point in history, yet more and more people are feeling disconnected, isolated and abandoned. The screens that promised us more connection often make us more isolated, a truth we have felt more acutely during quarantine. And God in his wisdom, has provided an answer for this isolation in the church. God calls the church not to be a social club of people just like us, but rather an intergenerational family, coming together to support and encourage one another. We are called to live together, learn from those more mature than us, and help those younger in the faith to learn and grow.

READ THE TEXT: 1 Peter 2:9-10

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

UNDERSTAND THE TEXT

1. According to verse 9, what is the purpose of God calling us together as one people? How does the church accomplish this goal?



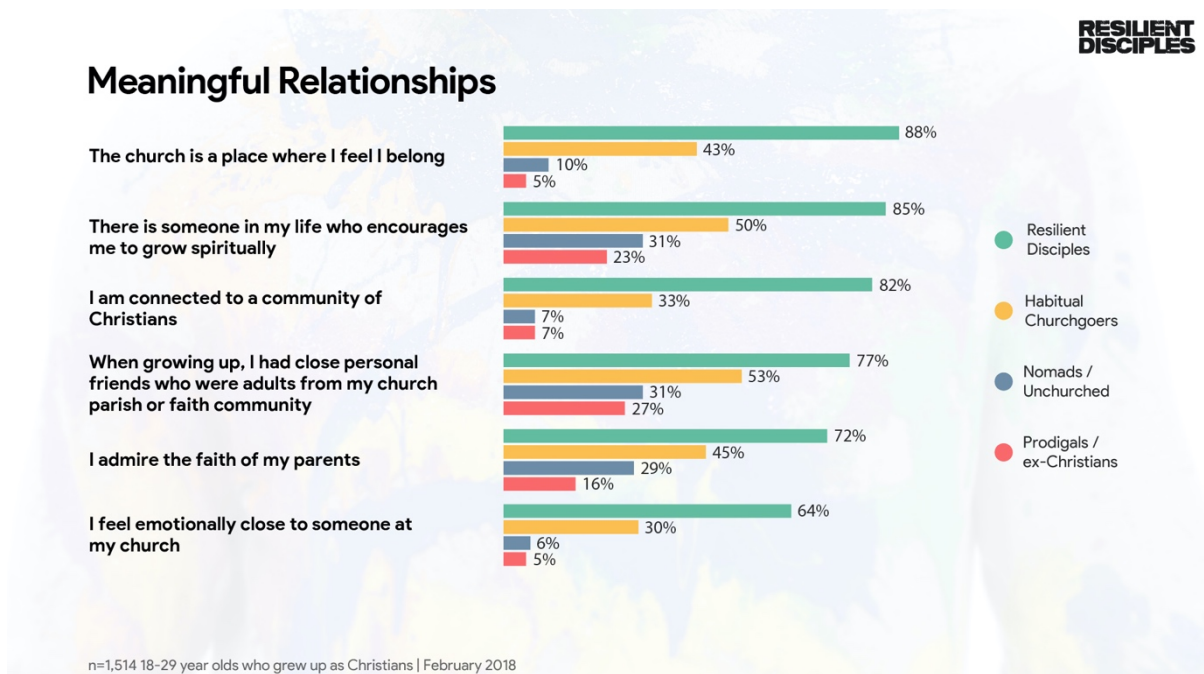
- How should the terms, “race”, “nation”, and “people” be understood in this passage? Are these meant to be understood naturally or spiritually? How should this affect how we view others?

APPLY THE TEXT

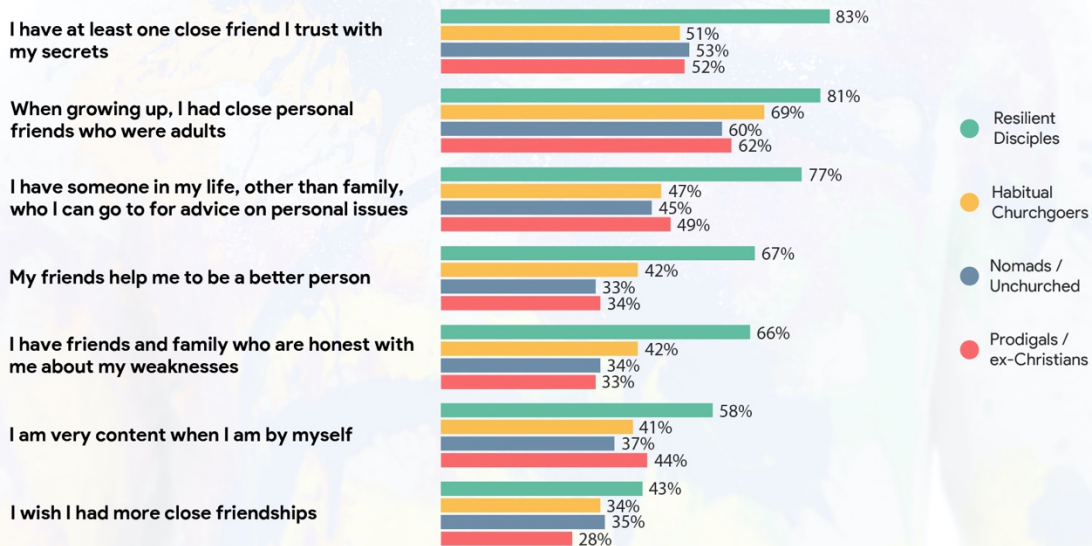
- What are the obstacles that get in the way of engaging in meaningful, intergenerational relationships? How can you overcome them?
- In what ways is the church uniquely positioned to provide a comprehensive solution to the epidemic of loneliness, isolation and mistrust in Digital Babylon?
- Recognizing that we naturally spend time with people like ourselves, what steps can we take to establish relationships with those more mature than us? How can we also make sure to invest in those younger than us?

SHARE & PRAY

- In light of 1 Peter 2:9-10, pray for each other as it pertains to pursuing these kinds of meaningful intergenerational relationships. Pray that we would all be looking for those younger in the faith to help guide them and look for those more mature in the faith to follow after.
- Identify 1-3 people in your life that you could disciple, or identify those that you are discipling — disciples of Jesus make disciples of Jesus — and pray for them. Pray for each other also as you seek to be used by God as resilient disciple-makers.

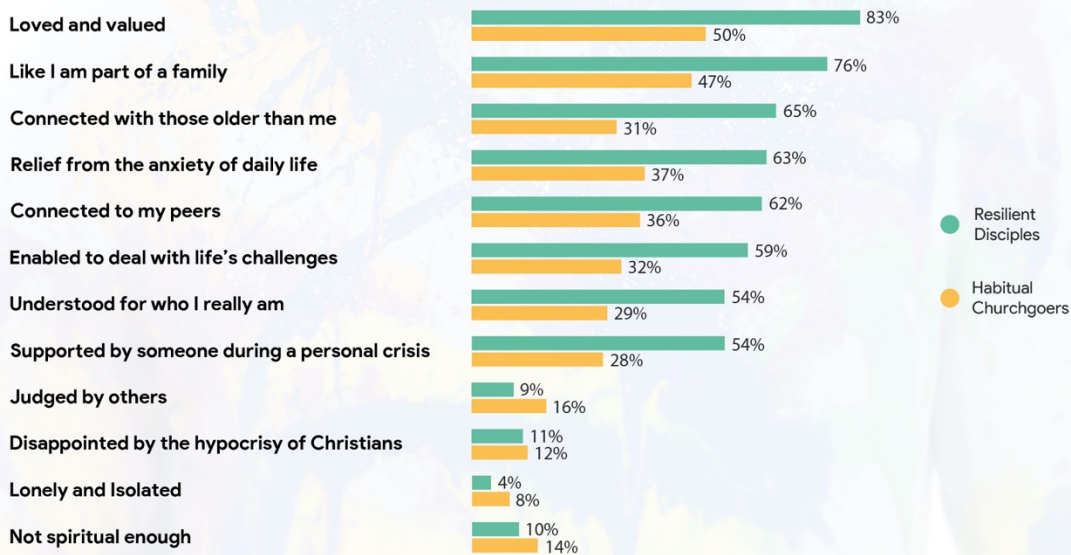


Resilient Disciples Have Strong Networks



n=1,514 18-29 year olds who grew up as Christians | February 2018

The Emotional Climate of Church



n=1,514 18-29 year olds who grew up as Christians | February 2018

