



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT ENGAGE- MENT SUMMIT

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
AUSTRALIA / 25-27 MAY 2018



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ENGAGEMENT
SUMMIT

INTRODUCTION

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SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
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Five Loaves and Two Fishes Lyrics



A little boy of thirteen
was on his way to school
He heard a crowd of people laughing
and he went to take a look
Thousands were listening
to the stories of one man
He spoke with such wisdom,
even the kids could understand





John 6



26 Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, you want to be with me because I fed you, not because you understood the miraculous signs.

27 But don't be so concerned about perishable things like food. Spend your energy seeking the eternal life that the Son of Man can give you.

John 6



33 The true bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

34 “Sir,” they said, “give us that bread every day.”

35 Jesus replied, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.





62% of Australian Young People
who attend a church drop out
before they are 30 years old.



2016 NCLS ATTENDEE SURVEY | 2016 ABS STATISTICS



Median age of Australians: 37 years

Average age of Church attenders: 53 years

13% of Churchgoers are 15-29 years old.

Age profile of Australian church attender

-13% are 15-29yrs - 24% are 30-49yrs - 63% aged 50+



The Local Adventist Church is at the Crossroads

We are living in one of the fastest periods of change in human history and the local Adventist Church is in danger of becoming irrelevant, even out-dated.

The local church is at the crossroads and needs to Biblically reinvent itself to stay relevant in a rapidly changing world.



A Generational Crisis

“We can no longer ignore statistics that show our SDA denomination is ageing. Our older, wiser members are precious to our Church and essential to our God given mission. However, we have a generational crisis that is not adequately being addressed. We are failing to adequately incorporate youth and young adults into church ministry and mission.”



Tweet



Ty Gibson

@tyfgibson



1. Met with some conference leaders yesterday. Very sobering. They are assessing pastoral ministry against the reality that nearly every church in their territory is on a trajectory toward closure. We are in a state of emergency. The church in NAD is heading toward extinction.

9:19 am · 17 May 18





Tweet



Ty Gibson

@tyfgibson



2. Another conference president recently told me all the data indicate that the current systems are not sustainable, that most NAD churches are not growing and that many are dying, but the kinds of changes needed would be too painful and therefore will not be implemented.

9:20 am · 17 May 18

8 Retweets **44** Likes



This Weekend

- Dream BIG
- Everything and anything on the table
- What can we do as a church to engage youth and young adults in our churches better than what we are doing now?
- I can't wait to see how the Holy Spirit will direct us as a group by the end of the weekend



Mark Sayers



God is in control of this moment.

And He is moving history toward His purposes.

Now is not the time to be afraid and run to the hills,

but to stand firm on the plain of this cultural

moment knowing that God is present with us here.



Harry Fenner (17) and Luther Warren (14) - 1879

Started the first Seventh-day Adventist Youth Society

139 years on - how are we engaging our youth and young adults

We need to be informed and deliberate to meet their needs