



THERE IS AN “EPIC GENERATION”

PROVERBS 30:11-14

CHARACTERISTICS OF AN “EPIC” GENERATION

E ntitled (*entrepreneurial*)

P rivate (*skeptical*)

I mage Driven (*option overload*)

C onnected (*restless*)

S piritually Vulnerable (*tolerant*)

DEFIANT: AN OVERPROTECTED GENERATION *(30:11)*

- **Helicopter Parents** hover too close.
- **Karaoke Parents** try too hard to be cool.
(They're not.)
- **Groupie Parents** treat their children like rock stars.
- **Lawn Mower Parents** run over anything that steps in their child's way.
- **Rototiller Parents** mulch over everyone.

DECEIVED: AN OVERWHELMED GENERATION (30:12)

Ten Shifts:

1. Workouts are the new work.
2. Movies are the new books.
3. Musicians are the new philosophers.
4. Athletes are the new heroes.
5. Starbucks is the new front porch.
6. Texts are the new letter or phone call.
7. Facebook and Instagram are the new social hook up.
8. Netflix is the new Blockbuster.
9. Smartphones are the new Rolodex.
10. Twitter is the new headline news source.

DISDAINFUL: AN OVERSERVED GENERATION (30:13)

“Knowledge doesn’t equal maturity. Giftedness doesn’t equal maturity. Influence on social media doesn’t equal maturity.”

I call this “artificial maturity.” ...they appear mature—they know a lot—but too often it is artificial, not authentic. This sends them into adulthood unhealthy and unready. They are savvy yet naïve.

DANGEROUS: AN OVER-CONNECTED GENERATION (30:14)

Most surprising findings in Pediatrics

- Nearly 97 percent of parents said their children used mobile devices of some sort.
- At age 4, the survey found three-fourths of kids owned their own mobile device.
- 28 percent of two year olds can navigate a mobile device with no help.
- 20 percent of one year olds own a tablet computer.

According to the Pew Research Center, students today put technology into the same category as “air and water.” In short, they believe: “I must have it to survive.” The same report reveals that college students would rather give up their “pinky finger” than their cell phone. Wow. That’s quite a trade-off, don’t you think? What’s more, teens interact with romantic partners “most digitally” and 31 percent have been the recipient of a boyfriend/girlfriend “breaking up with them in a text.”

TAKE HOME TRUTHS

We should listen to the greatest resource Book available...

- Help them by producing skillful godly intelligence (*Prov 1:2a; Col 1:9-10*)
- Develop in them discernment in decision-making (*Prov 1:2b; Eph 1:8*)