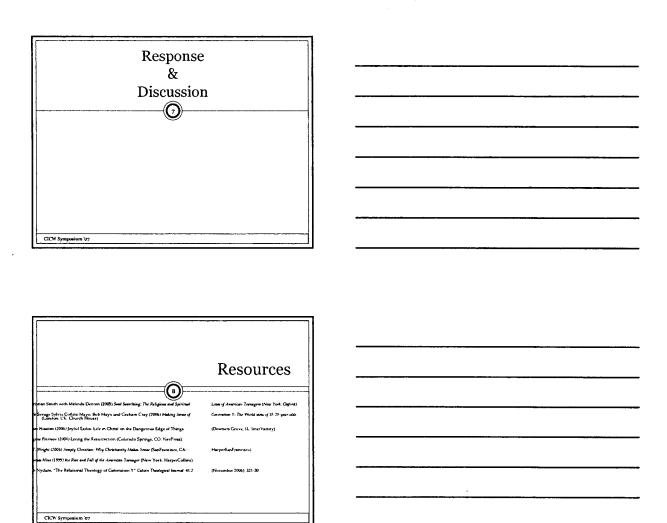
Connecting Disconnected Young People Through Worship

Connecting Disconnected	
Young People Through Worship	
DARWIN K. GLASSFORD, CALVIN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY	
WITH SHALENE MILLER, FPC, GAINESVILLE GA	
CICW Symposium '07	
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"Religion just does not naturally appear much on most teenagers' open-ended lists of what really matters in their lives." Smith & Deaton (2005, 130)	
Of What really matters in their myes. Smith & Denton (2005, 130)	
Introduction	
WHO DISCONNECTED FROM WHOM? WHAT MUST THE CHURCH RECOVER IN ORDER TO RECONNECT?	
3. WHAT STEPS MUST BE TAKEN TO RECONNECT?	
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Who disconnected from whom?	
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Did the church (adults) disconnect from the young	
people? • Did young people disconnect from the church?	
Popular Wisdom: Young people disconnected	
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Contributing Factors	
o Social & Economic Factors	
o Development of Adolescence	
o Public Education & "Experts"	
o Disposable Income	
* Term "Teenager" coined in 1941	
Separate Youth Culture (1st issue of Seventeen published in 1944)	
o Young People as Adolescents	
The church (adults) disconnected from young people.	
The church (addits) disconnected from young people.	
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What must the Church Recover in order to	
Reconnect?	
(i)	
Body of Christ	
o Young People are a part	
o Young people have the same value	
Dynamic Nature of Worship	
o Dialogical character	
• Purposeful	
o Ephesians 4; Hebrews 10	
o "We get what we are." Smith (2005)	
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What is good for our young people is good for our congregations.	
What steps must be taken to reconnect?	
Adults must be equipped to mentor young people.	
Worship must be accessible.	
Worship involves learning to appreciate other	
dialects.	
Relational and Experiential.	
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Connecting Disconnected Young People through Worship: Resource List

Compiled by Darwin K. Glassford

- Christian Smith with Melinda Denton (2005) Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers (New York: Oxford).
- Sara Savage Sylvia Collins-Mayo, Bob Mayo and Graham Cray (2006) *Making Sense of Generation Y: The World view of 15-25-year-olds* (London, UK: Church House).
- James Houston (2006) Joyful Exiles: Life in Christ on the Dangerous Edge of Things (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity).
- Eugene Peterson (2006) Living the Resurrection (Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress).
- N.T. Wright (2006) Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense (SanFrancisco, CA: HarperSanFrancisco).
- Thomas Hine (1999) the Rise and Fall of the American Teenager (New York: HarperCollins).
- Ron Nydam, "The Relational Theology of Generation Y" Calvin Theological Journal 41.2 (November 2006): 321-30.