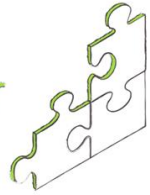




**Relentlessly Pursue**  
Intergenerational & Cultural

**Unity**



## PRACTICAL POSSIBILITIES

There is not just one way to address this area; at the same time, it can be difficult to discover the possibilities. This resource highlights considerations and sparks ideas. Your church is free to contact our CBOQ Next Gen team to help discern how God is directing you to address this area.

## STARTER QUESTIONS

1. Young people have tired of a divisive world. How can we as the church (both local and the big "C" church) be seen more united than divided when it comes to navigating the cultural issues of our day?

Define what are non-negotiable issues and secondary issues for your church community. Even with non-negotiable issues, attempt to find at least one common ground with "the other". While engaging with others you may not always associate with, model grace, compassion and understanding.

2. What do the adult-youth relationships look like in our church and how are we fostering opportunities for generations to learn and build relationships together?

Consider what areas/experiences do youth and adults already interact e.g. in a specific ministry project. In those spaces, identify ways those interactions can be deepened through intentional conversations. If there aren't any immediate opportunities, challenge your adults to explore ways they can "enter" those younger generation's world. E.g. ask their parents if there is an upcoming event (e.g. recital or competition) they can attend.

3. Which ministries (if any) reflect our congregation and by extension our neighbourhood? How are we consciously adapt our structure, systems or messaging to engage the cultural context we minister within?

As you identify the demographics of your congregation and neighbourhood, compare and contrast who currently serves in your ministries with those who do not. Are there any opportunities to extend the scope of your volunteer pool? If you're not familiar with your neighbourhood demographics, consider using resources like the most recent Statistics Canada census or inquiring with local agencies (e.g. food banks).

4. What does our church's relationship look like with other churches in the community and how are we building bridges to do collective missional work with others in our local area?

If your pastor is already part of a local ministerial, consider having a conversation about this area of Create and Cultivate with them. If your church is not connected with any other local churches, contact affiliates your church is familiar with through associations such as our

CBOQ associations, the Evangelical Fellowship of Churches or the Canadian Council of Churches.

5. Where are the greatest connection points for kids and youth with other parts of our church?

Similar to question 2, identify what connections (e.g. Sunday service) already exist. Explore how those moments could help build deeper relationships between kids/youth and other areas of the church. If there aren't any existing connections, identify how to invite kids/youth into those opportunities as equals (not as hired help or subordinates).

6. Which parts of our church's programming, theology or practises do our kids/youth have the most difficulty connecting with? What factors/obstacles influence that connection? How are we making space to navigate these areas?

Some of these obstacles may be obvious while there may be some that are in our "blind spots". It can be helpful to have someone outside of your immediate community to provide feedback on their observations.

### I'D LIKE TO ACCOMPLISH WITHIN:

One Month	Review these questions with a working group.
Three Month	Gather data to address some of the questions. This can be done through research, interviews, surveys, etc.
Six Month	Involve some of your kids and youth along with adults who are interested in starting/deepening opportunities to foster intergenerational friendships.
One Year	Connect with other local churches and agencies to see what common-ground opportunities may exist.

Access all the resources for this area at [cboqyouth.ca/arealcc](http://cboqyouth.ca/arealcc).

