



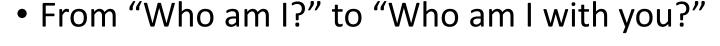
Trends & Issues Impacting Middle Adults

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From Apprentice to Master

- In the driver's seat of organizations, families, society
 - Millennials hanging on the coattails
 - Older adults moving out of the way
- Super-high functionality
 - Blessing the know-how is massive
 - Curse Potential functional trap

Quest for Deeper Relational Intimacy



- Adult Attachment Theory
 - John Bolby
 - Phil Shaver/Cindy Hazan (Univ. of Denver)
- Blessing: The experience of deep interpersonal intimacy
- Curse: Escaping interpersonal intimacy by identifying with function



Generativity and the Sandwich

- The Mentoring Opportunity
 - Super-high functionality is for the benefit of the young
 - Ken Blanchard: Mentoring
- The Sandwich
- Blessing: Potential for profound intergenerational experiences
- Curse: Overwhelming tasks supplant self reflection and relationship-building

Increasingly Gray

- The Crisis at Mid-life
- Blessings
 - The paschal mystery, and symbolism in general, becomes real
 - A renewal of commitment at a deeper and more personal level
 - I am my relational commitments
- Curses
 - Cynicism, paralyzing passivity, withdrawal, inaction, complacency
 - Permanently cemented in functionality I am what I do

Dynamic Religious Experience

- What Gen X wants from church:
 - Sensual worship
 - Non-dualistic worship
 - Open to Hi-tech worship
 - Entrepreneurial religion
 - Inclusivity
 - Relevance
- Blessing Revitalization of religion (personal)
- Curse Commercialization of religion (functional)