

GIVE THEM ROOM

Mandy DeHart



LOCAL
CHURCH
LEADERS

Have you ever had questions? You know, the ones that you aren't "supposed" to have, but that you can't help but ask? As a child, I was frequently told that I asked too many questions. In fact, I remember at one point being given a daily question limit! My questions typically sounded something like this...

"Are we there yet?"

"What did you do today? And yes, I would like to know every detail."

"Why did you paint the room that color?"

"Why is the sky blue?"

"Who chooses the names of cities?"

"Where do southern accents come from?"

"Why do I have to vacuum so much?"

"How do weeds grow?"

"What do you mean birds drop the seeds? But where do they get them? And where do they store them while they fly? And how do they land in our yard of all places? And where do the birds find the seeds?"

You can imagine how irritated my parents must have been by my daily interrogations. But my motives were innocent. **I simply didn't know the answers.**

As millennials, we question. We question a lot. We don't do this out of rebellion or disrespect, but out of the desire to have a deeper understanding.

How comforting it would be for young adults to be able to freely ask questions about their faith and beliefs in a safe environment, knowing they would be given room to seek out the answers and gain understanding. I would imagine that it would be a breath of fresh air for a twentysomething young adult.

What are some practical ways we could implement this in our young adult ministries? Perhaps we could allow for a time for questions during group Bible studies. Or maybe you and/or your pastor could do a teaching series based upon questions that young adults submit. Maybe this could be accomplished by simply spending one-on-one time with the young adults in your Hyphen ministry and giving them the space to ask questions.

Twentysomethings will be asking questions regarding the who, what, when, where, and why of their beliefs and their faith regardless of whether or not we give them room for these conversations. Why not make the church and our young adult ministries a safe place for this to happen? By giving them the opportunity to ask questions in a Christ-centered and biblically sound environment, it is likely that they will be guided with godly wisdom rather than if they seek answers on their own or from another source.

Let's give young adults some room to navigate and to gain a deeper understanding of who they are, whose they are, and how to fulfill their God-given purpose.