Alpha South Carolina

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What About Our Young People?

According to the Pew Research Center, 4 in 10 millennials (between the ages of 24 and 39) say that they are now religiously unaffiliated. Most millennials are likely to say that they have no religion than they are to say that they are Christian.

The mounting evidence of our younger generations turning away from Christianity puts the responsibility squarely on fellow Christians and organizations like Alpha to continue to demonstrate the love and light of Jesus Christ through our actions, not just our words.

"Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:16



Margaret Cotton,
Missionary Director

To shine a light and be the Gospel to others: Alpha provides a series of interactive sessions offering the opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment – with no pressure and no charge!

Sharing a meal, then a short talk, followed by a small group discussion; the spirit of hospitality and inclusion is paramount to the success of Alpha.

One thing young people want the most is to be heard, to ask questions, and to challenge! A key component of Alpha is to encourage open dialogue and to let our participants ask questions, whether simple or complex and let them explore the tough questions of life – If God exists, why do bad things happen to people? What about evil? Does the devil *actually* exist?

A large part of the Alpha South Carolina mission is to work with college campuses to provide training and support to reach these young people.

A comment from a College of Charleston Alpha course leader:

"Among our guests for this Alpha were...three atheists, two of whom had gone through some very difficult life circumstances. The third atheist struggled with alcohol addiction...the Lord provided

this setting for these guests to explore their faith while sharing about these tough and sensitive matters....At our Holy Spirit Day the guests were so excited. When the time came for them to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, everyone, including the atheists, were very open to receiving all that the Lord had for them. As with so many Alpha courses, it was after this day that the fruit became very evident."

Alpha continues to "shine a light" and share the Gospel to those in this generation and beyond.

