

Suggested Interview Questions for David Kinnaman

author of *You Lost Me. Why Young Christians Are Leaving Church...And Rethinking Faith*
(Baker Books, October 1, 2011)

- 1) What does the book's title, *You Lost Me*, signify?
- 2) Why are you convinced that the dropout problem is not just the usual generational growing pains, but a unique problem for the church?
- 3) It seems as though no matter how religiously engaged they were, as young Christians exit their teen years, they exit the church. Why?
- 4) One young person said "I never lost faith in Christ but I have lost faith in the church." What is causing young people to lose faith in the church?
- 5) What are some other stories you heard from the millennials you interviewed?
- 6) Are these patterns similar across evangelical, mainline, Catholic and orthodox Christian traditions?
- 7) Describe the three types of dropouts: prodigals, exiles, and nomads.
- 8) What is the great struggle of the emerging generation?
- 9) What do you mean when you say this generation is "discontinuously different"?
- 10) Explain the new realities of access, alienation, and authority shaping young people.
- 11) Do young people really think more highly of Paris Hilton than of Billy Graham?
- 12) Your studies show that young Christians are leaving a church they perceive to be overprotective, repressive, shallow, anti-science and exclusive. Tell us more about these perceptions.
- 13) You mention a countertrend in the data—young Christians who are passionate, committed, and bursting to engage the world for the sake of the gospel. Tell us about these religiously engaged young adults.
- 14) What are the three things you learned from studying the next generation that may help the church stem the tide of defectors?
- 15) Why do you suggest the church jettison the modern idea of generation and return to a biblical understanding?
- 16) What makes you optimistic about the Mosaic generation?