



GOSPEL

conversations

with
Matt Kirkas

Communicating
the **Good News**
to a culture
swimming in
fake news

Why Don't We Proclaim The Gospel?

- Theology
 - Don't believe people are lost
 - We go to church to meet our needs
 - Don't think they will accept it
- Skill
 - People are not trained
 - No relationships with non-believers
 - Fear

Who Are They?



Born between 1945-1964
Children of the Cold War



Born between 1965-1979
MTV Generation, Materialistic



Born between 1980-1994
Global, Internet

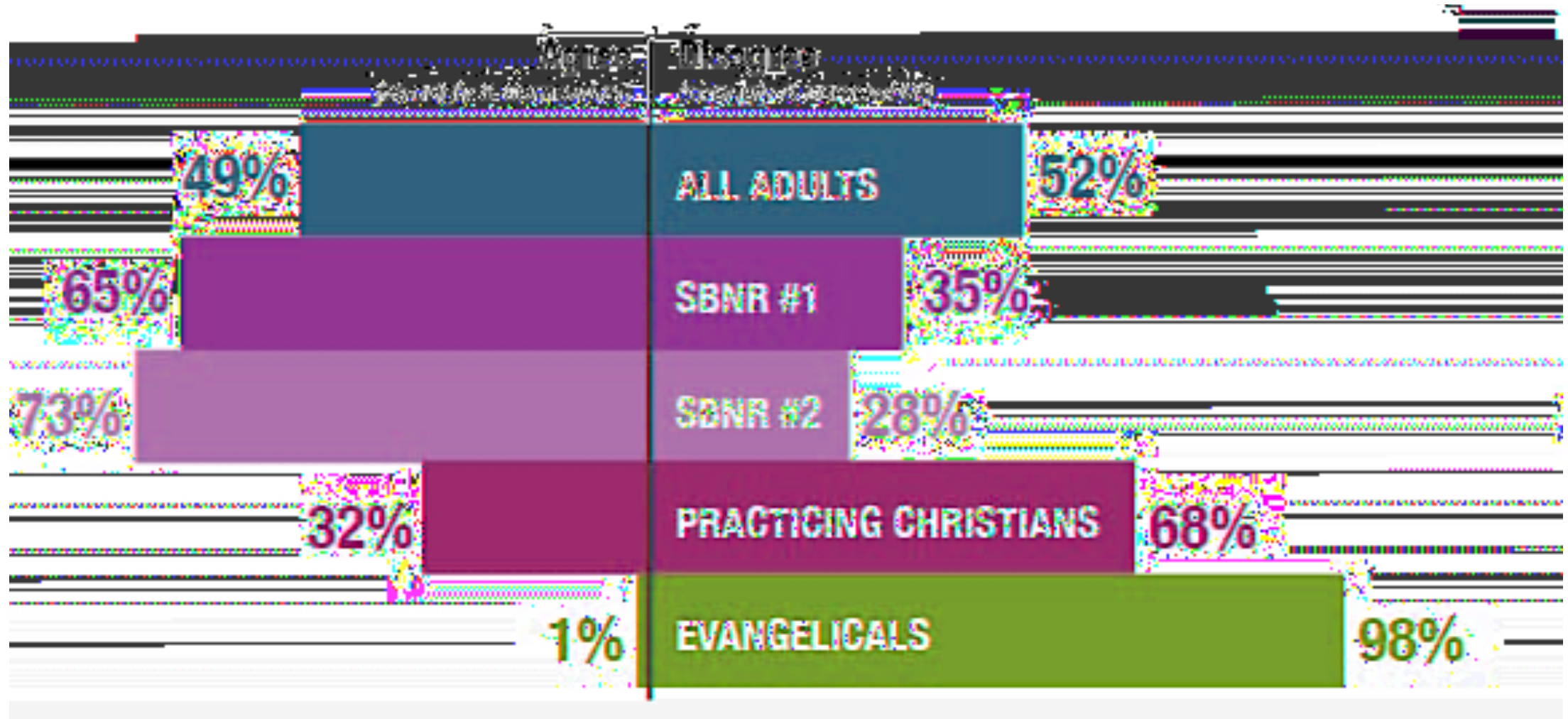


Born between 1995-2010
High Mobility, Digital Native

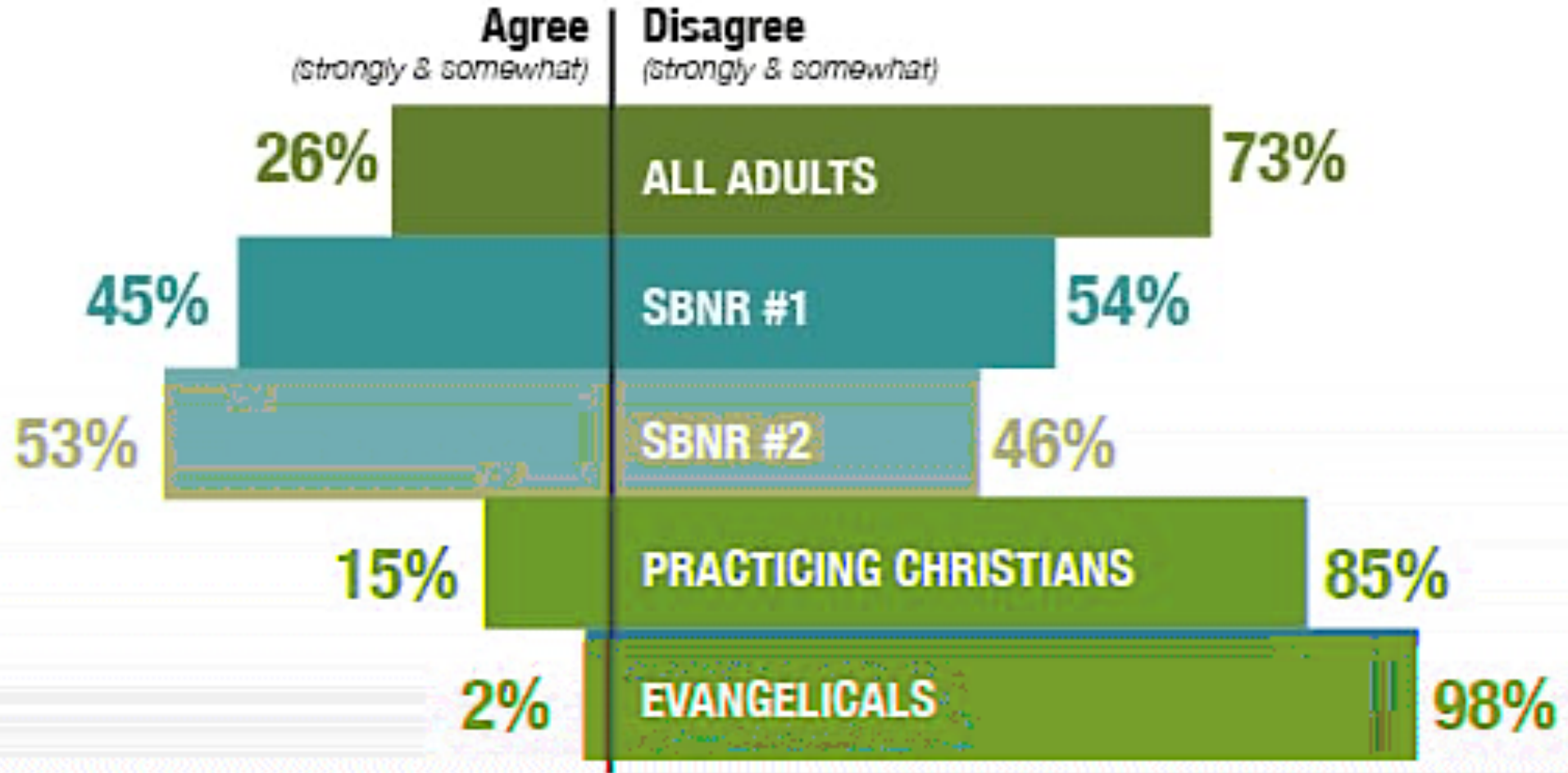
Worldview of Millennials

Category		Millennialist Worldview		Biblical Worldview
God and Humanity	O	Oneness	T	Twoness
Sin	N	Negligence	W	Willful
Salvation	E	Empathy	O	Offering

All Religions Are The Same



“Religion Divides, Spirituality Unites”



Profile of Gen-Z

Technology Native

Multicultural

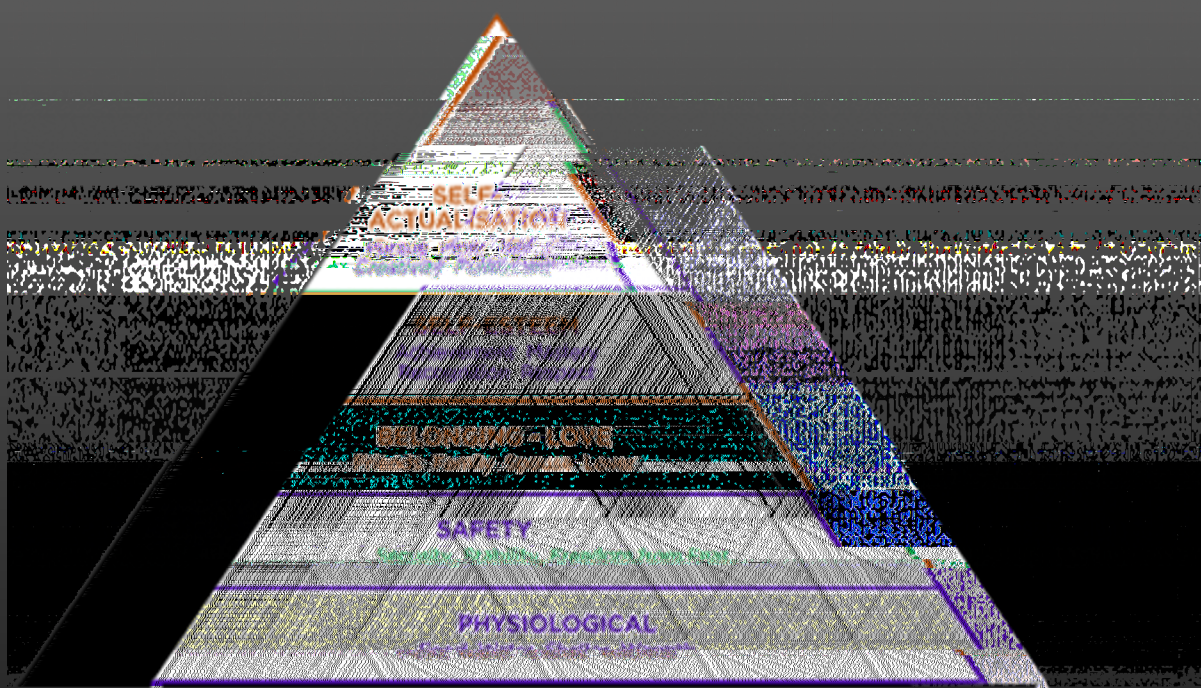
Educated

Authentic

Entrepreneurial

Socially Progressive





Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs



In Their Own Words





- I need to be free; I need to be myself, increasingly be myself, every day. With the internet, I feel much more free
—Female respondent, 22, city of São Paulo
- I really like things that are unisex! I think it's absurd that stores and brands split everything into "male" and "female." After all, fabric is genderless.
—Female respondent, 22, Goiânia

Spiritual Questions



	Value	Spiritual Questions
	Ideology	True?
	Individualism	Beneficial?
	Experience	Satisfying?
	Self-Expression	Affirming?

Gospel Emphasis Per Generation

	Satan deceives, but Jesus tells the truth
	Satan defrauds, but Jesus pays our debt of sin
	Satan destroys, but Jesus gives life to the fullest
	Satan disrupts, but Jesus restores

Gospel For Gen X and Boomers

Step 1 – Turning To Religious Topics

- “Which religion do you follow?”
- “People sin a lot, don’t they?”
- “Almost all religions are the same, aren’t they?” The most important similarity is how can we live in peace, starting today and throughout our entire life and even in the afterlife? How can our debt of sin be paid off so that we are no longer hounded by guilt and shame?”

Our Debt Of Sin Continues To Increase

- We are all sinners, aren't we?
- "Every day we sin, sometimes unintentionally. Even good people sin."
- "Our debt of sin grow larger each day, doesn't it?"
- "We grow frustrated because we cannot pay off our debt of sin."

Step 2 – Everyone Has Sinned

What are you doing to pay off your sins? (let them talk about 3-5 things they are doing to get their sins forgiven, then ask the following questions)

- Are your sins paid off (forgiven) yet?
- When will they be paid off (forgiven)?
- In eternity, will your sins be forgiven?

Step 3 – Proclaim The Gospel

- “What I believe is different. *I know my sins are forgiven*, not

The First And Last Sacrifice

- Jesus never sinned
- Jesus performed many miracles
- Jesus repeatedly spoke of His impending death and resurrection
- Sin, guilt and shame, fear = clothes of leaves
- Great punishment
- Promise of new clothes
- That is why Jesus had to die

Gospel For Millennials

Gospel For Millennials

- Ask, “Tell me about your spiritual background or your spiritual journey.”
- Follow up by asking, “My journey has been special. It has brought a real fullness to my life.”
- We all want to have a full life.
 - What do you think it means to live life to the fullest?
 - What are you doing to live life that way?
- Jesus said, “I came that you might have life and life to the full.”

Gospel For Millennials

- The world does not provide fulfillment
- Immanuel, God with us, so we can have fulfillment
 - God saw our frustration and took action to solve our problem.
 - God is not some impersonal divine energy
- Adam and Eve wanted to be like God
 - They were good people but were punished for one sin
 - Lost their fulfillment
 - What are you doing to live life that way?
- Jesus is the Life-Giver

Gospel For Gen-Z

Spiritual Confusion of Gen-Z

Disruption

Disorder

Disillusion

Disappointment

Disaffected



1. The status quo of religion prevented us from knowing God

- People were dissatisfied with the state of affairs
- Formal religion was preventing worship of God. So Jesus cleansed the Temple
- People did not help the poor. Jesus responded to the needs of the poor.
- Jesus taught amazing things – love your neighbor. Turn the other cheek
- Jesus did amazing things – John 9. Many being punished by religion.

2. Jesus came to restore us

- Jesus was more interested in restoration than disruption. But because we had fallen so far off course, it appeared as though Jesus was a disruptor.
- Jesus came to restore us to something that transcends time and this world
- To bring us back to our true selves in relationship with God

3. First Disruption

- We were created in the image of God
- Satan was the first Disruptor
- Effects of the Fall
 - We lost ourselves because we lost our relationship with God
 - “But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, ‘Where are you?’ And he said, ‘I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.’”
- Promise of God – a way back

4. Ultimate Disruption

- Correctly identified the need and offered the correct solution
 - We still hide from God through being religious or spiritual. But this doesn't solve our problem.
 - He came to restore the image of God in our lives
- Jesus was the promised way back to God.
- He steps into our suffering and defeats it.
- “Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit.” Jesus doesn't answer the why. Our suffering has purpose. God uses it to restore us to Himself.

5. Complete Restoration

- Meaning to our suffering
 - He doesn't keep us from suffering but saves us through suffering. He carries us through it to the other side.
 - Jesus traversed through the darkness and hell but came out on the other side victoriously intact.
- Dynamic relationship with God through our union with Christ
- Breaks down all barriers and makes a church of people from all nations and races
- Makes all things new (environment, people, etc)

Ask For A Response

1. Have you ever heard this before?
2. Does it make sense to you that we cannot pay off our debt to God so God made a way for our sins to be forgiven?
3. Do you believe that Jesus died as a sacrifice for our sins and was raised from the dead?

Challenges In Reaching Them

- Need the truth proclaimed in a way they can receive it. But we are divorced from their culture and their technology
- Biblically illiterate
- Lack of relational depth
- Loneliness
- Visual learners

Evangelism Strategy

- Be incarnate in their doubts and questions
- Move from being event-oriented to being process-and-event-oriented
- Apologetics to answer different questions
- Participate in their lives
- Model grace not judgment
- Evangelism from inclusiveness
- Share the dynamism of your relationship with God
- Role of parent
- Integration in the church