

“But you are a **chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness and into His marvelous light.”** 1 Peter 2:9

Try and picture what it would look like if this up-and-coming generation of Christians would rise up and take seriously this high calling. What would happen if we – the youth – would respond sincerely to Christ’s radical call for true and costly discipleship?

A generation is a powerful thing. Worlds have been turned upside-down by God working through the concerted efforts of visionary men and women: brothers and sisters who were willing to raise the standard of Christ by contributing their own sweat and blood. There have also been times when great progress, which was built up in a bygone era, has decayed and collapsed under the careless watch of an apathetic people. We all will soon be taking the place of our parents’ generation, and before long, a new generation will rise up and replace ours. What will be said about our generation? What will we have done for Christ and His Kingdom?

Everything is on the line. If there is a failure to take the torch from our fathers and hold it high, if we cannot get to our feet and run the race, then we will not be able to effectively equip the next generation of Christians – our children – and the torch will be dropped. All it takes is for one generation to drop the torch. Will we take this calling seriously? If the answer is yes, then we have a lot of work to do.

This is the issue at hand, and this is the issue that the International Christian Fellowship Group will be focusing on for this coming year. So whether you’re coming to the Western, Midwest, or Eastern ICFG Retreat, be prepared to encounter Christ and His challenge that is going out to you and your peers: “Will you be my chosen generation?” The ICFG would like to invite you and your church’s youth to attend the upcoming retreat March 14th – 16th, 2008 at Camp Friedenswald in Cassopolis, MI. You know what the theme is going to be, and as we dig deep into this subject, there will be lots of opportunities to act it out: in study, in prayer, in fellowship, and in worship. Below are the basics you need to know to get there:

Registration & Discounts

Everyone needs to register online. The registration fee for the retreat is \$50 if you register early (by February 23rd), but it’s \$55 after that. If you register the week of the retreat, the registration fee is \$65. If you would like to get your church more involved, suggest they help sponsor individuals or the group going to the retreat or suggest they donate money to the ICFG to help defray our costs. Please make checks payable to ‘ICFG’ and mail them with your registration to: J.C. Hodges Georgetown University Box 577679 Washington, DC 20057.

Schedule & Transportation

The general schedule is to arrive at Camp Friedenswald after 6pm (camp’s time) on Friday, and leave after lunch on Sunday. If anyone needs to be picked up or dropped off at the airport that weekend, the flight info should be sent to Erin Weinhardt (e_weinhardt@hotmail.com) as soon as it’s available. She will be coordinating the pick-up & drop-off. Saturday evening we plan to host an interactive time of sharing and would like to encourage your group’s participation through the preparation of special numbers and sharing of testimonies of how God is working in your lives.

Permission Forms, Etc.

Anyone planning to attend that is under the age of 18 and will not have a parent or guardian at the retreat is required to fill out the medical/ permission form. This form can be brought to the retreat by the person attending. See the “What to Bring” list on-line and be sure to pack accordingly. Visit www.icfg.org for more information or to download forms.

We hope to see you all at the retreat, and look forward to sharing in its blessings with you!

**Your servants in Christ,
The ICFG Staff**