Master’s Thesis Defense

Abstract

Post-College Transition: A Study of Evangelical Spirituality in Emerging Adulthood

by

Katharine R. Pals

This thesis explores the question: How are the spiritual lives of evangelical Christian FIU graduates affected during the two to four years following their college graduation? In twenty mini-case studies participants describe their patterns in prayer life, devotion, community service outreach, and ways that they understand their own growth process as evangelical Christian emerging adults.

A total of twenty FIU alumni from the classes of 2009-2012 between the ages of 23 and 34 were interviewed in this study. The sample population of evangelical Christian FIU alumni was identified by the graduates’ previous membership in on-campus Christian organizations, including Campus Bible Fellowship, InterVarsity, Cru, and the Wesley Organization.

Emerging adults in this study saw changes in their community life, prayer life, scripture reading, and their views of theology, yet overall they maintained a strong commitment to their evangelical Christian worldviews. Findings suggest types of support that evangelical Christians in this sample seek during emerging adulthood.

Date: March 26, 2014
Time: 2:30 p.m.
Place: University Park, DM 323

Department: Religious Studies
Major Professor: Dr. Christine E. Gudorf