



Building Effective Youth Ministry (revised)

Matthew 19:13-14

¹³ Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them.

¹⁴ But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.



Establishing Youth Ministry



Part I: Structure of Youth Church

Divisions of YM (C.O.G.I.C edition)

- Infants/Nursery (ages 0-4)
- Primary/Sunshine Band (ages 5-11)
- Love Alive/Teens (ages 12-17)
- College Ministry (ages 18-24)
- Young Adult (ages 25-36)

**Each division has its own needs*

**Your church may or may not have youth in these divisions*

Part I: Divisions of YM (C.O.G.I.C edition)

Development for Infants/Nursery (ages 0-4)

Erikson's Stages of Psychosocial Development

- 1. Infancy (0-18 months):

Trust vs. Mistrust. The infant develops a sense of trust in caregivers based on their responsiveness and reliability.

- 2. Toddlerhood (18 months to 3 years):

Autonomy vs. Shame and Doubt. The child begins to assert their independence and control over their actions.

- 3. Preschool (3-5 years):

Initiative vs. Guilt. The child explores their environment and takes initiative in activities.

Piaget's Stages of Cognitive Development:

1. **1. Sensorimotor Stage (0-2 years):**

Infants learn about the world through their senses and actions. They develop object permanence, the understanding that objects continue to exist even when they are out of sight.

2. **2. Preoperational Stage (2-7 years):**

Children develop language and symbolic thinking, but their thinking is still egocentric and lacks logical reasoning.

Part I: Divisions of YM (C.O.G.I.C edition)

Development for Primary/Sunshine Band (ages 5-11)

Erikson's Stages of Psychosocial Development:

Early School Years (6-12 years):

Industry vs. Inferiority. The child focuses on developing competence and mastering new skills.

Piaget's Stages of Cognitive Development:

Concrete Operational Stage (7-11 years):

Children develop logical thinking skills and can understand concepts like conservation (e.g., the amount of liquid remains the same even if poured into a different shaped glass).

Part I: Divisions of YM (C.O.G.I.C edition)

Development for Love Alive/Teens (ages 12-17)

Erikson's Stages of Psychosocial Development:

Adolescence (12-18 years):

Identity vs. Role Confusion. The individual explores their identity and role in society.

Piaget's Stages of Cognitive Development:

Formal Operational Stage (12+ years):

Adolescents and adults develop abstract thinking, hypothetical reasoning, and problem-solving skills.

Part I: Divisions of YM (C.O.G.I.C edition)

Development for College Ministry (ages 18-24) & Young Adult Ministry (25-36)

Erikson's Stages of Psychosocial Development:

Young Adulthood (18-40 years):

Intimacy vs. Isolation. The individual forms close relationships and seeks intimacy.

Piaget's Stages of Cognitive Development:

Formal Operational Stage (12+ years):

Adolescents and adults develop abstract thinking, hypothetical reasoning, and problem-solving skills.



Part II: Establishing YM

Part II: Where do I get the Youth?

*You cannot have a youth program where you don't have youth.
Does every church have youth?*

The youth for your church will come from one of two places:

Youth from the Community:

- How many children do we pass on the way to our churches?
- How many relatives have unchurched children?
- How many of our children's friends need a church home?

* To get these kids, you need to offer things like food, school supplies, clothing and meet needs.

Youth as part of the families In Our Churches:

- Encourage families to have as many children as they can afford
- Starting families start with developing a strong singles ministry
- Encourage young people to marry
- Develop effective Singles Ministry

*To get these kids, you need to encourage the growth and development of families within the church.

Part III: Elements of Youth Ministry

Characteristics of a quality YM



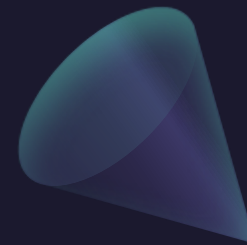
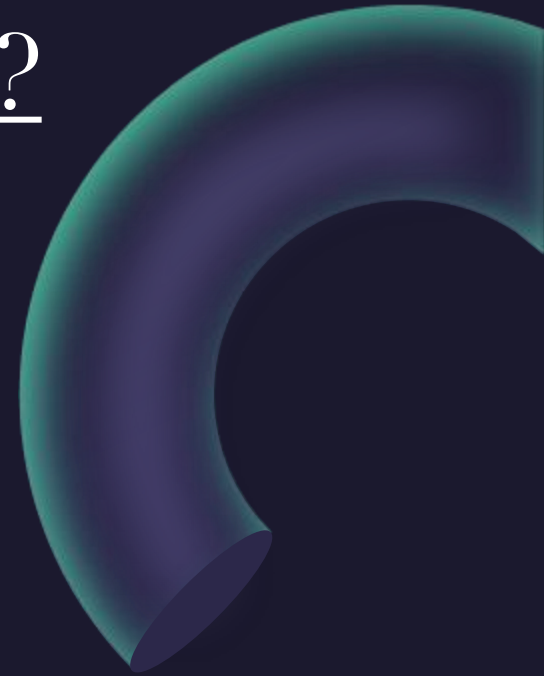
Part III: What does a quality YM look like?

True or False: Youth Ministry and Adult Ministry are the same?

A quality YM has the following characteristics:

- It is dynamic/touches on all the senses (use technology)
- It is inclusive (no child left behind)
- It utilizes the arts
- It is age appropriate
- It is exciting and engaging (has life, discussions/no lectures)
- Uses themes (TEAM Sunday, Dress-down Sunday)

**Establishing an effective YM will change your adult ministry*



Action Step: 3 Programs you can Implement Today!

- After-School Tutoring/Mentoring
- ANYTHING IN THE ARTS! (Drama, dance, spoken word...etc.)
- Media
- Young-Adult Night (Bible-study and Mixer)
- Young Adult Sundays (led by Yas...they do EVERYTHING)

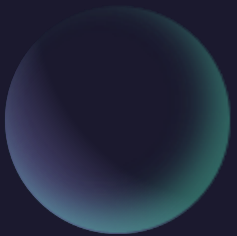
- ❖ *Don't be cheap...you can be inexpensive and not be cheap!*
- ❖ *At any Youth program, FEED THEM!*



Wrap-up

What have you gotten from today's lesson?

Any Questions?



Thank you

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