

# Youth Leadership Manual

---

*Compiled by John Perfect*

November 2010

# Table of Contents

1. Introduction
2. Why Youth Ministry ?
3. Before you start
4. Just a few questions to ask yourself
5. Roles of the Young Leader
6. Youth Pastor – Job description
7. Understanding Culture
8. Representation of Youth Culture – diagram
9. A Representation of Culture
10. Vital Characteristics
11. A different look
12. Discipleship
13. Getting started
14. Definitions
15. Leadership Team and Youth Group
16. Mentoring
17. Developing your Leadership Team
18. Barriers to an Effective Team
19. Team Characteristics and Development
20. Ministry Tips
21. Counseling Young people
22. 12 Steps to help Youth Leadership
23. Seven habits of highly INEFFECTIVE leaders
24. 10 Traits of a healthy Youth Group
25. Examples
26. Facts – The Books of the Bible
27. Facts – Summary of the contents of each Bible Book
28. Facts – Names, Titles and Characters of Jesus Christ
29. Discipleship Challenge

# Introduction

Beginning, maintaining and being part of a ministry to young people can be overwhelming and intimidating when you are not equipped with the necessary tools to be able to minister to the youth of today. The calling is there – but no real equipping – can be a problem. In fact, most people who are put in charge of young people, jump head first into the ministry with a passion for young people, but later find out that they were not equipped with the necessary leadership tools for leading them effectively, therefore resorting to games and entertainment each Friday night.

Understanding the fact that most young leaders are unequipped and don't know where to start, hopefully this manual and time spent equipping you will be just what you need in your call to lead young people. Obviously, there are several approaches to youth ministry, but hopefully and prayerfully, this manual will help you to start on the right foot.

It would be great to put everything into one manual – but space, time and effort does not allow that. As in any adventure, the **LEARNING IS IN THE JOURNEY**. You will find out what it takes to understand just what it means to lead young people.

The prayer for this manual and this time equipping you, is that as you walk through several important steps, it will help you begin, maintain and be part of that exciting call in your life – to minister to young people. Your ability to apply what you have learnt will help you make a huge impact of the youth of today.

But one must understand and remember – this is not the beginning and end of what you will learn – this is only the beginning, with a few tools – the journey is only beginning.

Go for it !!

# Why Youth Ministry ?

Ministering to young people is a very serious calling and responsibility. It is more than a job. It is more than just been there on a Friday night. It is more than an opportunity to lead programs or entertain young people. It is an awesome responsibility that has been given to the church – and especially young leaders who have a desire to serve and minister to young people.

In today`s world, the needs of young people are crying out and must be addressed as we restore Biblical foundations. The pressures from the world and the lack of influence within the church present us with an increasing crisis in today`s youth culture.

If I had to identify the core reason our young people are succumbing to the lure of a godless culture and lashing out with rage, I would say it is because they feel alone, disconnected, abandoned, and unsure of who they really are.

Josh McDowell

There are so many young people of this generation that are isolated emotionally as well as relationally. They feel lost, not knowing who they are. Even those young people who come from good Christian homes feel disconnected and alienated from their parents and from society in general. They are crying out for hope – and help, and this is where you come in.

There is hope for them.

Effective youth ministry represents an important link in solving this crisis. Young people need role models. They need spiritual leaders who can identify with them and have the answers of hope to some of the problems they face today. Too many times the role models that young people follow today are worldly, ungodly and pertaining to a culture that is foreign to the Bible and what God thinks.

Ministry to young people is a very courageous call. It is an eternal calling. It is a rewarding calling.

Young people need you. Jesus needs and wants to use you.

Are you ready to accept this call ??

# Before you start

Are you ready ?

Are you equipped to do the task you are called for ?

Before you jump right into the ministry to young people, it is vital to take a look at your own spiritual maturity and motivations. Most young people leaders jump into ministry without examining their own character and the cost of this extraordinary call.

Here are ten vital characteristics that each young leaders should know and look at before he/she starts. But one needs to be careful here. You might not have all these characteristics – that does not mean that you can't be involved. Today is the starting point to be there for the young people with the right stuff to minister to them.

Examine yourself by asking: “Am I exemplifying these characteristics in my own life – before I ask other young people to examine themselves as well ?”

## 1. Christian Life

Young leaders must be and become role models to young people. The young people will watch everything you do. They can spot a **phony** a mile off. As young leaders you should be able to say to them:

Follow my example as I follow the example of Christ.” (1Cor 11:1).

Youth ministry is an extraordinary calling and one must be above reproach in areas such as:

- Discipline
- Purity
- Integrity
- Sacrifice
- Asking for forgiveness – when things go wrong

Are you living a LIFESTYLE that is glorifying to God ?

## 2. Spiritual Discipline

Before effectively leading young people, young leaders must excel in spiritual disciplines in their own lives. How can you ask young people to do what you are not doing ?

Some examples:

- Prayer – do you attend the prayer meetings, and regularly pray at home ?
- Memorization – do you spend time memorizing the Scriptures ?
- Meditation – do you spend time pouring over the Word of God ?
- Study – how often do you study the Bible or attend the Bible Study night ?
- Submission – are you in submission to the elders and authority of the church /
- Service – have you given your life to the service of other people ?
- Worship – are you a leader or follower in worship ?

Spiritual discipline leads to spiritual growth. You will not be able to lead young people to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ if you are not growing yourself. Young leaders must constantly nourish themselves with Scripture or the cup will run dry – and young people will pick this up straight away. The spiritual disciplines allow the Holy Spirit to fill us and change us, then and only then, will we be able to pour ourselves into others.

Are you excelling in all of the spiritual disciplines ?

### 3. A love/passion for God and young people

A genuine love for God will lead to a true love and understanding for today`s youth. Loving young people can be difficult and draining at times. A young leader must have a passion for young people. If the passion and love is not there, the fire will burn out quickly. Do you love God with your whole heart, soul and mind ? Do you have a deep passion for young people and their hurting hearts ?

### 4. Firm understanding of God`s Word

Without knowing the Word of God, there is no standard or platform which to stand on when leading young people. Not knowing the Scriptures does not disqualify you – but having a heart to want to know the Scriptures is the key. Surprisingly, there are many young leaders who do not have a firm understanding of God`s Word. Your understanding of the Word must be seen in all areas of your life. Do you have a firm understanding of what God`s Word says, or are you moving towards that ?

### 5. Reliable/Consistent

A young leader must be faithful, dependable, reliable and consistent in the calling of God – ministering to young people. Inconsistency in these areas will tarnish what you are trying to achieve with the young people. If you are not like this – you can`t ask the young people to do the same. Do you demonstrate these qualities in your life ?

### 6. Teachable

A young leader must continually be committed to learning God`s Word as well as how to become better in his/her ministry to the young people. A young leader never stops learning. Do you have a desire to learn more about God`s Word and how to reach young people more and more ? The passion of knowing and getting to know God`s Word – is it there in your life ?

### 7. Endurance/Balance

A young leader must be flexible and have the ability to “bounce” with the young people when they hit their high`s and low`s. Often, young leaders get burned out with the demands and don`t have the endurance to keep going with young people. Youth ministry takes endurance, both spiritual and emotional endurance. However, there must be a balance. A young leader must know when to go hard and when to take time for rest. Young people have so much energy – so it is important to understand the balance of dealing with them. Getting to know when to be strict, soft, kind, caring – is an art that the Holy Spirit will lead you into. Do you have what it takes to endure the high`s and low`s of young people ministry ?

### 8. Time

Effective young people ministry takes time... lots of time. A young leader must be willing to spend the time that it takes to effectively minister to young people. Today`s young people take time and lots of energy. Time is often a great sacrifice and a young leader must be willing to make that sacrifice. Ministering to young people is not a JOB – it is a CALLING. Are you willing to sacrifice your time so that you can effectively fulfill that CALLING in your life ? Are you prepared to have young people just hanging around you all the time ? Not only does it take time – but you need to be on time as well. NEVER be late.

## 9. Commitment to the Church

A young leader must be part of the church and understand the role they play in the local Body of Jesus Christ. Young people have an important role in the Body of Jesus Christ – and it is essential that every young leader is committed to the church, the elders, the vision and what the Scriptures teach about the Great Commission. Are you willing to be committed in such fashion ?

## 10. Servant`s Heart

A young leader is just another name for a SERVANT. It is essential that young leaders seek to serve the young people and their interests, and not seek their own glory and recognition. Do you have a heart for serving young people all the time ?

Who a leader IS, is more important that what a leader does or says.

Pat Hurley

Make sure that you read these 10 points over and over again – so that you can thoroughly examine yourself. If there are areas which need improvement, then take the necessary time and effort to improve them. These ten character qualities are vital for effective young people ministry. Remember, young people can pick a phony from a mile off.

Make sure you are in a position to effectively lead others to the Throne of God.

Are you now ready ??

# Just a few questions to ask yourself

1. Do you have a passion for young people who are hurting and seeking the truth ?
2. Are you above reproach in areas such as discipline, purity, integrity, sacrifice, and asking forgiveness ?
3. Do you spend time with the Lord everyday ? Do you pray everyday ?
4. Is your lifestyle glorifying to God ?
5. Are you spiritually disciplined ?
6. Do you spend time memorizing Scripture ?
7. Do you look for opportunities to speak to young people about Jesus ?
8. Are you loving Jesus with all of your heart, mind, and soul daily ?
9. Do you have a firm understanding of God`s Word ?
10. If not, what have you put in place so that you can grow in His Word ?
11. Are you dependable and consistent ? Not only in yourself, but how you deal with young people ?
12. Do you have a desire to grow in your own walk with Jesus ?
13. Are you committed to Jesus and His calling in your life, through both good and bad times ?
14. Are you willing to sacrifice your time just for the young people who God has called you to serve ?
15. Other than the young people – Are you committed and involved in the church ?
16. Do you understand the Great Commission ?
17. Do you understand the aspect of endurance and balance in your life ?
18. Do you have a heart for serving others ?
19. How do you handle correction in your own life ?
20. Do you like having fun and enjoying yourself ?

# Roles of the Young Leader

Now that you have examined yourself and are ready to begin the journey of leading young people, it is important to take a look at the role of a young leader. The roles of youth ministry vary, but as a general rule, a person who leads young people – is a **Shepherd**.

Biblically, a **Shepherd**:

1. Leads and serves the flock (1 Peter 5:1-5) – A young leader ultimately wants to and leads young people, in leadership and for them to get to know Jesus Christ through the Cross. It is crucial that a young leader leads by example – and that example is Jesus Christ.
2. Guards the flock (Acts 20:28) – With the enemy wanting today`s youth more than ever, a young leader must be able to guard their young people against false teaching and systems of thought that don`t bring glory to Jesus Christ. This guarding is done by proclaiming the truth of God, correcting young people when necessary and leading them to maturity.
3. Oversees the flock (Acts 20:28) – A young leader must have a hand in everything going on within the ministry to the young people, and making sure that it is grounded in Biblical truth. It is important to delegate some of the responsibility but make sure that you know what is going on at all times in the ministry.
4. Builds the flock (Ephesians 4:11-16) – A young leader must create an environment that encourages, exhorts, and challenges each young person in his/her walk with Jesus. This will allow the young leader to recognize different gifts and help them become an important part of the Body. It is vital that each young person knows who they are in Jesus Christ, and then fully equipped for that work and position in the Kingdom.
5. Feeds the flock (2 Timothy 4:2) – If a young leader does not feed the young people under his authority, with the Word of God, then all the work and effort will be in vain. And believe it – the enemy will use this to his advantage. It is essential that the Word of God is taught in an understandable way, so that today`s young people will gain understanding and touch their lives in an amazing way. Teach only the truth of the Word of God.

Even though there are other roles such as administration or evangelism, these five roles of a young leader are absolutely necessary for an effective ministry with young people.

Are you ready to take on this responsibility of “shepherding” God`s young people ?

I am convinced that the ultimate mark of a youth minister is not what he or she brings to the youth group, but the ability to understand that each kid is sacred and that Christ can be seen in each one... Today, we need youth ministers who are willing to love like Jesus – people who will choose to do loving acts, who are willing to see young people as sacred, who know how to look into the depths of a young person`s being, and who are willing to give up power for the sake of love.

Tony Compolo

# Youth Pastor's Job Description

All of the duties and responsibilities of the Youth Pastor can be broken down into three major functions, and these are:

- To lead – with good Biblical Leadership skills
- To love or shepherd – with the caring and overseeing the flock
- To teach – to be in and out of season with the teaching

Each one of these functions is clearly founded in the Bible.

In his function as a **leader**, the youth pastor will be responsible for the following:

1. He is to develop a clear, biblical, culturally relevant, and transferable philosophy of ministry. (i.e. win the lost, establish the believers, and equip them to serve.)
2. He is to develop, communicate, and implement a strategic plan for ministry that is consistent with the biblically based philosophy of ministry.
3. He is responsible to cast vision, recruit, and equip ministry team members.
4. He is to work closely with parents and view them as teammates, be patient with them, and serve them as a resource in bringing students to maturity in Christ.
5. He is responsible to lead the entire congregation in their approach to ministering to students.
6. He is to evaluate and make changes in the overall programming of the ministry to ensure that it continues to meet its biblical mandates.
7. He is responsible to ensure that each student is given the opportunity to discover his or her own unique gift-mix and to begin to develop and use those gifts within the context of this local body of believers.

In his function as **lover or shepherd**, the youth pastor will be responsible for the following:

1. He is to pray for and establish an atmosphere of love within the ministry.
2. He is to communicate through the context of relationships, love and acceptance for the students.
3. He is responsible to ensure that there are opportunities for counselling, discipleship, and mentoring for students in the ministry.
4. He must make sure that consistent communication is taking place within the ministry between adult ministry team members and students.
5. He is to ensure that biblical church discipline be carried out in a timely and sensitive manner.

In his function as **teacher**, the youth pastor will be responsible for the following:

1. He is to clearly and accurately communicate the Word of God in a culturally relevant way with the goal of life change.
2. He is to ensure that the ministry has a biblical identity or understanding of itself. (“Student Ministry” versus “Youth Group” . . . First Century Church ideals and convictions in the context of twenty-first century students)
3. He is to ensure that the ministry has a proper concept of who Jesus the Christ is.
4. He is to reproduce, equip, empower, and offer positive feedback to emerging teachers and preachers.<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Use with permission: Like the Master Ministries – Biblical Principles of Youth Ministry

# Understanding Culture

## Youth Ministry is a Cross Cultural Ministry

For most of us involved in youth ministry, our mission is a cross cultural endeavour in which we are seeking to relate to people who live in a different “world” to us. So quickly is society changing, that the older we are, the more “cross cultural” will be our task. Therefore, we will take some time to explore some basic principles of cross cultural ministry - principles that will form a framework for the strategies that will be developed over the course of our studies.

“We all have friends, peers, or children whom we want to help. Like all the very best missionaries throughout history, we must make every effort to discover the perceived and real needs expressed in this ‘foreign culture’ of theirs.”

- Mal Fletcher, *“Youth: The Endangered Species”*

## Defining Culture

### 1. Describing Culture

There are almost as many definitions of culture as there are books about it! In this unit we will consider culture as being made up of the following elements:

#### a. Symbols: “What is valuable”

The “symbols” of a culture are those material things that are regarded as prized and valuable. These are the outward evidences of culture - from the artefacts recovered from ancient cultures through to the objects that grace our homes today. In identifying the symbols of a culture, ask the following questions:

- What do people spend their (discretionary) money on?
- What do people prominently display in their homes?
- What do people prize for the convenience and comfort they offer?
- What are the symbols of status?

#### b. Behaviour: “What is acceptable”

Each culture establishes certain standards of behaviour that are deemed acceptable. While still outward, these are less obvious than symbols, and range from the laws of the land, through to those conventions that determine what is appropriate in given circumstances. In order to identify the behavioural aspect of culture, ask the following questions:

- What is considered illegal?
- What behaviour is considered normal and what causes embarrassment or condemnation?
- What language is used?
- What ways of speaking are considered acceptable?
- How do people dress?
- What food is popular?
- How do people relate to the opposite sex?

#### c. Values: “What is important”

Values mark the transition between the outward and inward aspects of culture. They are those non-material things that are regarded as being important, both in what people say and in how they behave. In order to identify these, ask the following questions:

- How do people spend their (discretionary) time?
- What value do people place upon human life and dignity?
- What is the role and significance of the family?
- What is considered ethical in a given situation?
- What is considered moral in a given situation?

d. Beliefs: “What is true”

Cultural values are based on cultural beliefs. These are those underlying convictions about what is right and wrong. It is these beliefs that dictate values. To identify these, asks questions such as:

What is considered to be “right”?

What is considered to be “wrong”?

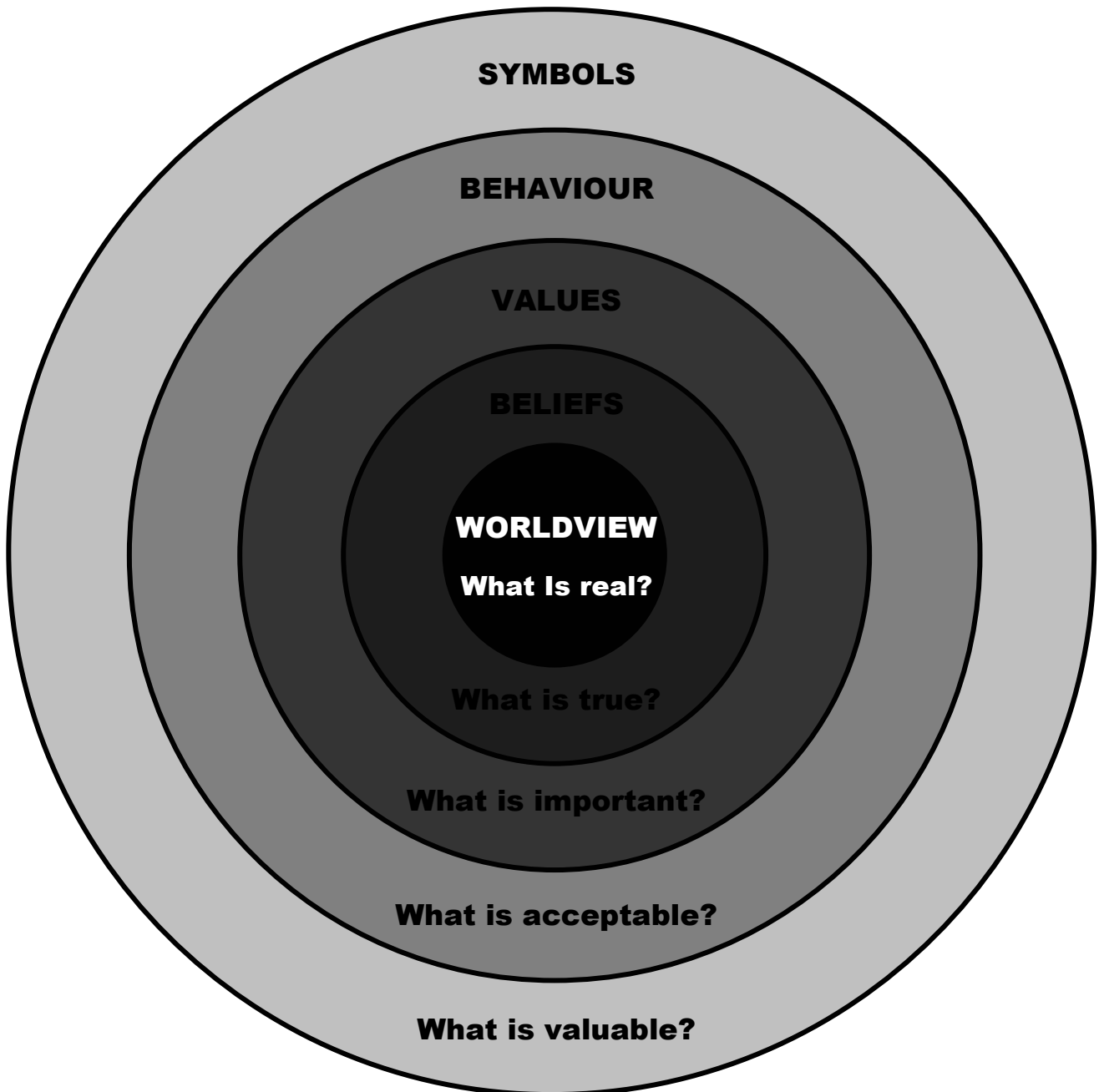
What is the basis for determining standards of morality and ethics?

e. Worldview: “What is real?”

The deepest level of culture is worldview. This concerns the preconceptions and assumptions life which a culture adheres to - ones that govern beliefs, values and behaviour, and deal with the deeper issues of existence. To identify these, there are some questions to ask:

- What is the intrinsic value of mankind?
- What is the meaning of life?
- How is truth determined?
- What is “real” and what is illusion?
- Who or what is “God” (god)?

# A REPRESENTATION OF CULTURE<sup>1</sup>



---

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from an article by Lloyd Kwast, "Understanding Culture" in "Perspectives on the World Christian Movement", Institute of International Studies (1981)

# A REPRESENTATION OF CULTURE

## The Core of Culture

At the core of culture is worldview. If we are to be effective in mission to a cultural group we must become aware of the way in which they view the world or reality.

### 1. The Significance of Worldview

#### a. The power of worldview

The real power of worldview lies in the fact that its perceptions are largely subconscious and are often more apparent to those outside of the culture than those within it. A person may hardly be aware of these perceptions that make up their unique worldview, simply assuming them to be “normal” for everyone.

#### b. The centrality of worldview

Worldview is central to one’s expression of culture. What one believes to be “real” determines what one regards as being true, which in turn answers the question, “What is important?”. The answer to this question determines what is deemed to be acceptable behaviour and what is regarded as valuable or prized.

#### c. The formation of worldview

While it forms the central core of culture, worldview is created by the other elements of culture. A baby is born with no worldview. As they grow their worldview is shaped and formed by the beliefs, values, behaviour and symbols of the society in which they live. Thus, to change worldview is to go against the very culture in which an individual has been raised.

#### d. Theology and worldview

Worldview is essentially a theological question as it answers the basic questions about a culture’s perception of God and of man in relation to God. One’s worldview shapes one’s theology, yet at the same time a change to one’s theology impacts worldview. In fact we could say that theology must impact worldview if it is to become rooted in the life of the individual, and reflected in changed values and behaviour.

### 2. The Ingredients of Worldview

A worldview consists of three things:

#### a. A people’s understanding of the world

A worldview will describe people’s perception of the world in which they live. It will contain the basic axioms on which belief is built and will answer the following questions:

- What is the nature of truth (e.g. is it absolute and fixed, or relative and changing?)
- What is the basis by which truth is determined (e.g. revelation, reason, intuition?)
- What is man’s role and position in relation to the rest of creation?
- What is the meaning of life?

#### b. People’s understanding of God

A worldview defines people’s concept of “God/god”, the origin of ultimate cause. It answers questions such as:

- What forces are at work in the world
- What is the nature and character of these forces?
- Do we approach and apprehend these forces?
- What is our responsibility toward these forces?

### c. People's understanding of self

Finally, a worldview gives people a grid through which they view themselves: It answers questions such as:

- What is the value of man? Is it intrinsic or earned?
- What is man's purpose of life?
- What is man's responsibilities in life?

By answering these questions we will develop a good understanding of what is "real" to a culture. It will provide us with an outline that will help us to explain the beliefs and values they hold, and the behaviour they exhibit.

### 3. The Function of Worldview

society's worldview has important functions to perform in relation to its culture:

#### a. Provides meaning

A coherent worldview brings together a whole array of thoughts and perceptions into an integrated system of belief. It gives a framework by which a people is able to explain the operation of the world around them, and can then determine their best response in interactions with it.

#### b. Provides comfort

In a world of uncertainty and unpredictability a worldview provides a degree of certainty and predictability. When something happens that challenges their worldview and makes them feel afraid or confused, most tend to look for comfort by discrediting the event through the reinforcement of their existing worldview.

#### c. Provides security

A worldview acts as a means to monitor the new beliefs, values and behaviours that constantly confront us. It helps us to select only those ideas that fit our culture and to reject those that do not. It also helps us to reinterpret those ideas that we do adopt so that they fit our overall cultural pattern. These functions provide us with the reasons why it is hard for people to alter their worldview. To take an existing worldview and begin to deconstruct it in favour of another leads a person through a process of confusion (loss of meaning), turmoil (loss of comfort) and uncertainty (loss of security).

## Challenging Culture

In our work with young people we are faced with the challenge of leading them to embrace a new culture - the culture of the kingdom of God. In doing so we must challenge aspects of their existing culture, while being careful to do so in a manner that will be effective.

### 1. Approaches to challenging culture

The Parable of the Sower provides a model for approaches to challenging culture:

*4 One day Jesus told this story to a large crowd that had gathered from many towns to hear him: 5 "A farmer went out to plant some seed. As he scattered it across his field, some seed fell on a footpath, where it was stepped on, and the birds came and ate it. 6 Other seed fell on shallow soil with underlying rock. This seed began to grow, but soon it withered and died for lack of moisture. 7 Other seed fell among thorns that shot up and choked out the tender blades. 8 Still other seed fell on fertile soil. This seed grew and produced a crop one hundred times as much as had been planted." When he had said this, he called out, "Anyone who is willing to hear should listen and understand!" - Luke 8:4-8*

a. Adopting the symbols (vv 4,5)

In this first approach we encourage young people to adopt the outward symbols of faith. These might be wearing a cross around the neck or a WWJD bracelet around the wrist. The “symbols” might also be owning their own Bible or listening to Christian music. It is a strategy common among parents and youth leaders who are trying to get a teenager to buy into Christian faith, and while not wrong in itself, these outward symbols alone do not constitute true faith. Nor do they necessarily lead to the embracing of faith, as they are easily discarded or “eaten by the birds”.

b. Controlling their behaviour (v 6)

This second approach tries to control the behaviour of the young people. It might take on of two forms: positive and negative. A “negative” approach is to try to get the person to stop practising behaviour that is contrary to Christian culture. This may be done by any means from gentle coercion through to outright threat. A more “positive” approach adopted by some is to urge the young person to embrace Christian behaviour, which might be moral (doing the right thing), and/or spiritual, such as carrying a Bible, attending church and youth group, coming forward at a meeting, or being baptised.

Neither strategy in itself is likely to achieve ultimate success, as the focus is on outward behaviour and not the heart. The result is “shallow soil” and any apparent evidence of faith quickly “withers for lack of moisture.”

c. Imposing our values (v 7)

Another approach to evangelism is to try to impose our values upon the young person. A common way we do this is by establishing certain Christian values as part of the culture of our youth ministry and expecting conformity. Generally these values are positive values such as kindness to others and respect for leadership. They may even be backed up by the majority of the youth group who adopt them and in doing so exert a positive peer pressure on the newcomer. Yet as desirable as this is, conformity to these values does not constitute conversion. A young person may exhibit adherence to these values while in the youth group, and yet once faced with conflicting circumstances and pressures may find these values easily “choked”.

d. Establishing the truth (v 8)

A more effective way to challenge culture is to focus on what is true. By giving people accurate information they are able to receive the seed of God’s word and go on to “produce a crop one hundred times as much as had been planted.” Yet many are unable to receive this truth, blinded by the false worldview which has captivated them. If they are to be set free to embrace the Christian faith they must be impacted at a more profound level...

## 2. Impacting Worldview

In order for culture to be entirely changed, a person must undergo a change of worldview. While a person may be intellectually convinced by the validity of the Christian faith and may in fact be willing to embrace it, lasting change and an effective Christian life can only be attained when worldview begins to change. Some aspects this change might happen at conversion, while others are more gradual, occurring as the individual grows in their faith and more fully embraces “Christian culture”. A change in worldview occurs:

a. By the action of the Holy Spirit

*When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth.* - John 16:13

It is the Holy Spirit who is able to impact that deepest part of an individual - that part where they determine what is “real”.

b. By exposing inconsistencies

*The Pharisees asked Jesus, “Is it legal to work by healing on the Sabbath day?” (They were, of course, hoping he would say yes, so they could bring charges against him.)<sup>11</sup> And he answered,*

*“If you had one sheep, and it fell into a well on the Sabbath, wouldn’t you get to work and pull it out? Of course you would. 12 And how much more valuable is a person than a sheep! Yes, it is right to do good on the Sabbath.” - Matthew 12:9-12*

Jesus frequently challenged people’s worldview by exposing inconsistencies of belief, thus opening them up to embrace a new perception of reality.

c. By role modelling a new worldview

*In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father. - Matthew 5:16*

A person’s worldview can be changed when they view firsthand an alternative worldview lived through the life of another person. This first hand display of a worldview and its implications can cut through preconceptions and alter perceptions which would otherwise remain untouched by argument alone.

# Vital Characteristics

The following are three vital characteristics of a young leader:

1. **Passion** — people want to follow passion... it`s what makes you different
2. **Prayer** — without prayer, the ministry to young people will fail.  
The Holy Spirit changes lives... you don`t — you just pray.
3. **Preparation** — allows you to communicate excellence  
Remember: Young people can spot a **phony**.

# A different look

Having a different look at some keys.

Ten keys to being a better young leader – by Derek Gentle (rewritten to the South African context)

1. It's not just an adventure, it is a calling that has aspects of a job !

You wouldn't report to work at a secular place of employment only if you feel like it. You wouldn't follow the instructions of your boss only as long as it fitted into your plans and priorities. It is dishonest to fail to give an honest days work for the wage that you have agreed to work for. It is wrong to disregard portions of your job description.

Working (within the calling) with young people doesn't make it OK to do just that.

Most churches realize that the ministry, especially the ministry to young people requires a great deal of flexibility and therefore put a lot of trust in leadership to be self-starters and to exercise responsibility.

Don't allow this flexibility to be taken for granted.

Don't give the Lord Jesus and His Body and your calling any less than you would a secular employer.

2. Remember: You're not only a Shepherd, you're also a sheep

Follow the shepherd, not only Jesus Christ as the Chief Shepherd, but also your Pastor and the eldership of the church.

Love the eldership, respect them and be part of the vision of the church at all times. Realize that he (and the eldership) are not only the leadership of the church in which God has placed you, but they are your leadership over you – so be loyal.

3. Organization is not a dirty word

Don't believe that things will just work themselves out. Don't believe that you just have to turn up on a Friday night and things will work out. Making sure the programs are well planned and set up. Think about it – How would Jesus do it, if He was leading the youth ? Taking care of the details can make the difference in reaching young people. So get organized.

4. Realize that you will have to answer to many people

Different people in the church will have different questions to ask you.

The young people will ask: Can he/she relate to me ?

Parents will ask: Can they take care of my child on a Friday night ?

The leadership will ask: Can they build successfully with the youth ?

Those in charge of the finances, will ask: Can they look after the combi and the church on a Friday night ?

This must not be seen as a threatening area of youth leadership – but rather the ability to answer the questions with your lifestyle, your leadership style and the way you will build the youth over a period of time.

Be honest and open to all who ask questions – especially the parents who don't come to the church, but have allowed their children come to youth.

Make sure all the young people will be safe at all times. This is the bottom line.

## 5. Learn the “Hint” dialect

The leadership of the church might give you an assignment, wording it so gently, such as: “just a possibility you may wish to consider handling the following...” This is their way of being tactful, gentle and watching out that your feelings will not be hurt in the process. They will do it in a way – not like your parents in a direct and strict way.

So in like manner you need to learn the same tactful approach to the young people when you are talking to them. Try not to give them instruction – but rather make a suggestion and see the reaction. Yes, there are times to give direct instructions – but using the suggestion route is the best with the young people.

## 6. Youth Leadership involves more than taking a bunch of young people to a Youth concert

If all your youth program on a Friday night consists of organizing the young people to visit other churches or programs – then you are not leading the young people. You are just an organizer, and not a leader.

Leading young people takes more than just organizing trips, visits and programs on a Friday night. It is the ability to TEACH, TRAIN and EQUIP the young people, so that they will in turn be able to lead others in the near future.

Doing this, takes planning, organization, preparation and having a balanced program. Remember you are dealing with lives that will be effected into ETERNITY.

## 7. You can't go for the OVERFLOW when nothing is FLOWING in

Be a learner at all times. The Lord will bless your ministries which is sitting on the cutting edge of your own GROWTH. Here are a few tips.

- Work on areas of personal spiritual growth
- Develop your ministry skill that God has given you
- Avoid getting hung up on pet subjects
- Seek to be well-rounded, even balanced and up front
- Know doctrines as well as disciplines
- Learn new and innovative methods as well as those tried and proven
- Take advantage of training opportunities in the church and elsewhere
- Spend time praying for each young person, and see your attitude change

## 8. Remember that this is a Youth Group – not Groupies

Beware of building a personal followings, instead of encouraging young people to be followers of Jesus at all times. Avoid being made into a hero or celebrity. Help young people express the Life of Jesus Christ through their unique personalities – don't manufacture clones of yourself.

Remember: Build away from yourself at all times. Work yourself out of a “job”.

## 9. Don't start a church within a church

The young people must not be a church within a church. The young people must not be separate from the “church” – even though they do meet separately on a Friday night and have separate programs and activities.

Young people must be taught that the whole church is a family and they are part of it. Young people must be encouraged to attend all the other types of meetings that have been arranged in the church. The interaction with all members of the church, young and old is the ultimate goal.

## 10. Build a Youth Ministry team

At all times, build the team together. Use and play to the strengths of the team. Listen to the team. Involve the whole team – as some of them will be able to relate to some of the young people whereas you can't. Lead the team – don't wait for others to lead. But one must remember: Don't hog the limelight. Don't try be the centre of attraction. Build the youth leadership team in such way that will be able to continue in you can't make that Friday night.

# Discipleship

## Question: Is discipleship necessary in youth ministry ?

Did you know that only 6% of church going teenagers continue in the church when they leave school and go to university or Tech. Why ?

Discipleship has been neglected.

Discipleship is the key to reaching the world.

If the Great Commission is going to be fulfilled, it will be because Christians see that Jesus meant what He said when He gave the command to “make disciples of all nations”.

Today`s youth leadership are missing the mark on discipleship, and have a huge challenge on their hands.

## What is Discipleship ?

There are hundreds of definitions of discipleship, but it can basically be broken down into the following:

1. Discipleship is teaching people to be taught and having a relationship with God our Father
2. Discipleship is training people to become independently dependent on Jesus Christ
3. Discipleship is equipping people to become that which God has called them to be
4. Discipleship is multiplying mature believers by the process of one person taking another person or small group of people and pouring his life into those people to the degree that they are mature enough to reproduce others as well

*Discipleship is a lifestyle.*

*Disciples follow a person, not a program*

## Who do I disciple ?

Is everyone a good candidate for discipleship ? Yes and No !! When looking for discipleship candidates, consider those who are **F.A.T.** – but don`t leave anyone out. The ability to bring all people into the area of discipleship is what Jesus really called you to do.

**F**aithful – someone who is mature and faithful to Jesus

**A**vailable – someone willing to take the time for growth

**T**eachable – someone who has a deep desire to learn and grow in the Word of God

## Characteristics of a Disciple

- Believes – John 2:11
- Submits to Jesus` Lordship – John 3:22-36
- Commits all – John 6:66-71
- Continues in the Word – John 8:31
- Love – John 13:34-35

- Obeys – John 14:15, 21
- Abides – John 15:5
- Seeks unity with believers – John 17:20
- Experiences Holy Spirit – John 20:19-23
- Ministers to others – John 21:15

## Principles of Discipleship

Although there are many principles of discipleship, these following principles are crucial for an effective discipleship ministry.

### 1. The Principle of Influence

This principle says that discipleship cannot be done superficially. This occurs when the student is influenced by things of this world. When discipleship is influenced by things of the world, the desires for God are choked out. Someone being disciplined must be influenced by the cause of Jesus Christ and not by the things of this world.

Changing the focus of influence is the what it is all about.

### 2. The Principle of Character Training

This principle says that the essential training for Christian discipleship is character training. Character Training occurs when we...

- Teach – pass along information and knowledge of the Word of God to others
- Train – give people skills to build their faith through witnessing, prayer, Bible Study, devoted life etc
- Equip – equipping people to become leaders and that which God had called them to be
- Build – develop character through personal contact... helping the other person see their strengths and weaknesses, ultimately, leading them to a life modeled on and by Jesus

### 3. The Principle of Contact

This principle says that personal relationships are essential for discipling others.

Discipling friends is better than strangers. Only when a person trust you – you will be able to pour into their lives the principles of the Bible and character change will take place.

Friendship Evangelism always works. Getting your friends to come is easier than a total stranger.

### 4. The Principle of Life Conditions

This principle says that character training is most effective when carried out under life conditions – by people seeing your life and how you handle things. When the discipler lives out what he is teaching (walking the talk), then the reality of his/her life builds a solid foundation into the lives of those around them.

Jesus did this – He told story about true life – and the people could relate to this.

## Implementing Discipleship

Here are seven steps to help you get started in developing disciples:

- Step 1 – Pray – Ask God to have control of your discipleship ministry to others

- Step 2 – Choose the disciples – each leader takes a few young people to disciple
- Step 3 – Commitment – communicate the commitment to those you have chosen
- Step 4 – Prepare the Group – chose the times, places etc for the discipleship meetings
- Step 5 – Prepare yourself – before the first meeting make sure that you are well prepared
- Step 6 – Motivate the group – motivate the group through example, encouragement and that you care for them
- Step 7 – Follow up – continue to follow up on the groups growth towards maturity

# Getting Started

## Vision – Purpose – Philosophy

After evaluating yourself and understanding the roles of youth ministry, it is essential to begin forming a vision, purpose and philosophy for your ministry towards the young people. Just as a coach of a rugby team would draw up a plan for the game, you must create a ministry GAME PLAN so that everybody understands where you are going and how you are going to get there.

---

**Vision** is *where* you are going ?

**Purpose** is *why* you are going ?

**Philosophy** is *how* you are going to get there ?

---

### What is the value of vision, purpose and philosophy ?

Creating a vision, discovering a purpose, and determining, working out a philosophy is not an option – it is a necessity. Here are five reasons why vision, purpose and philosophy are so valuable.

- They bring STABILITY
- They produce CREATIVITY
- They are the key to MOTIVATION
- They result in a GENEROUS SPIRIT
- They create DISCIPLINE

See what a vision, purpose and philosophy can do ?

A God centred vision, purpose and philosophy will bring stability, creativity, motivation, a generous spirit, and discipline to the young people.

### How do I develop a vision, purpose and philosophy ?

#### 1. Prayer

Prayer has always been a means through which we seek and receive God`s vision. Ask Him to give you a renewed vision and purpose for your own life and calling. He is faithful to those who seek His glory in all things.

In Ephesians, Paul prays that the people at Ephesus would have a renewed vision (Eph 1:18-19). Paul also says, “Now to Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works within us.” (Eph 3:20)

When we see God`s power and majesty, we see the scope of our vision and purpose.

#### 2. Scripture

If our vision, purpose and philosophy is going to be from God – it must be built according to God`s Word. We must clearly see His purposes in Scripture – such as the Great Commission and caring for others.

What is God`s purpose and plan for the Body of Jesus Christ ?

All visions, purposes and philosophies must pass through the Cross and Resurrection.

If they are not birthed in that context – are they really Godly ?

### 3. Meditate/Memorization

Based on what God has said – it is important to meditate and memorize His Word to gain a God centred lifestyle to the vision, purpose and philosophy. You need to start to live it out.

### 4. Planning

There is no substitute for planning.

Creating a vision, purpose and philosophy takes time and lots of hard work. It is essential that you make the time to think thoroughly through each step. You need time to meet together to formulate what God is saying.

During that time: Organize your thoughts, brainstorm, write everything down, and continue until you feel that you are on the right track.

# Definitions

## Vision of Ministry

One of the greatest needs among youth ministries today is a vision – having a vision for the young people, so that the leadership and young people know where they are going and what it is seeking to accomplish.

Proverbs tells us that: WHERE THERE IS NO VISION, THE PEOPLE WILL PERISH.

This proverb couldn't be more true as we see people, churches, leadership and ministries all over the world settling for much less because they have no vision or purpose – or could not care less – because it is much easier to go through the motions.

Before one jumps right into leading young people – it is important to see the ministry to young people from God's perspective and gain a very clear vision and purpose, not only for yourself but the young people that God has placed in your care.

To gain a vision – one must ask the following question:

Where is my ministry and the ministry to young people heading ?

By asking this question, one can begin to formulate an eternal vision for yourself and the young people. Too often we want to know what to do, but how can we know this when we don't know what we are trying to accomplish ?

If you don't know where you are going, then you will never know how to get there !

Is there anything worse than physical blindness ? Yes, sight with no vision !!  
Helen Keller

Formulating a vision needs time, prayer and spending time in His Presence.

## Purpose of Ministry

Along with vision, a ministry must have a purpose. Now that you have formulated and written down the vision after asking the question: Where is my ministry and the ministry to young people heading ?

It is now essential to start asking the difficult WHY questions.

- Are you trying to build a group or your own empire ?
- Are you trying to build people – teach, train and equip them ?
- Are you just entertaining young people in what you do ?
- Is there a definite focus on Jesus and what He wants to do ?
- Are you building away from yourself or to yourself ?
- Can the young people function without you present ?
- Is the focus on team ministry or one-man bands ?

To determine the ministry to the young people, you must now start asking yourself this type of question all the time:

Why are we doing the things that we are doing ?

Youth Ministry purpose is not to have a bunch (large or small) of comfortable Christians who will show up on a Friday night for some fun and entertainment. You do all the work and they just sit there.

The focus of the Scriptures is that you are to teach, train and equip them so that they will be able to move out into the world and have a huge impact for Jesus Christ.

Read 2 Timothy 2:2 – there are 4 generations here.

There must be a “why” behind EVERYTHING you plan to do – including fun and games.

Ask yourself: Out of this game, what can I teach them in Biblical truth or life skills that are based on the Bible ?

If you don't have a purpose in the things that you do – then the ministry to the young people is meaningless in the Kingdom and Purpose of God.

Don't waste your time... have a very clear purpose !!

My greatest fear in life is that I will be successful at something that had no eternal significance.

Howard Hendricks

## Philosophy of Ministry

Now that you have gained a vision and purpose behind your ministry, it is time to start determining how you will accomplish your vision. In other words, you have asked the “where” and “why”, now you will ask the “how”.

Both vision and purpose are useless if you don't have practical steps of getting there.

Philosophy takes the vision and makes it a reality.

Determining your philosophy requires you to ask the following question:

How are we going to get where we want to go ?

You are now drawing out the “game plan”. You're putting the pen to the paper and discovering the best way to achieve your vision and accomplish your goal. This step actually requires lots of prayer and thought. It is easy to gain a vision and purpose, but it is much harder to determine the practical steps of getting there.

# Leadership Team and Youth Group

Now that you have put together a vision, purpose, and philosophy – it is time to start building a working leadership team and recruiting a wonderful youth group.

You might have a group of young people already – but are they blended into what you believe is the vision, purpose and philosophy – so you have start again with them and others.

As you might figure it out – but you won't be doing this whole thing alone. We often confuse leadership with the idea that we the leadership group are to all the work and the others just sit and get entertained.

However, all effective young people's groups have a great leadership team that know where they are going and are able to take the whole group with them. A leadership team work as a team to lighten the load – plus bringing the dynamics of the different talents that each team members has.

There are several benefits to having a leadership team.

1. The team would be able to develop relationships with young people that you would not and could not reach on your own.
2. The team can model a pure Christian lifestyle to the whole youth.
3. As you operate as a team – you are developing “team” amongst the young people as well.
4. With all the talents and gifts – each person in the team is able to energize and motivate each other.
5. As the team complete tasks and achieve goals with the young people – the team is able to encourage each other.

**T** - together  
**E** - everyone  
**A** - achieves  
**M** - more

The saying: You're only as good as those around you”.

## Recruiting other young people into the group

Recruiting other young people into the group can be intimidating if you don't know where to start. Here are a few tips and ideas to use.

1. The young people group

You can't know where you are going or what you want unless you know what you got. Therefore, it is important to know and to get to know the regular group that comes on a Friday night.

Therefore, here is what you can do:

- On a piece of paper write down as many of the young people you can remember by name.
- Once you have done that – compare it with what everyone else wrote down and let see how many young people there are in the group – that are really known.
- Where you have duplicates – share with others that don't have – and use this list as a guideline to pray for those young people on your list.
- The very first Friday – draw up a list in which each of you will go and find out the full names, addresses, phone numbers, birthdays, interests and maybe a goal or two – of the young people on your list.
- Have a separate list to put other young people on that list – so that you don't miss anyone.

- Now you have this – try to compile a full list of names and addresses – your immediate ADMIN side of things has just been completed.

## 2. Your own church

There are many young people who come on a Sunday but never come on a Friday night. Here is your chance to encourage them to come and be part of what is happening. Be careful here of the “church within a church” syndrome. As they do come – add them to someone’s list to care for them, and make sure that all details are on the Admin list as well.

## 3. The local area

One needs to be very careful here. You are not recruiting sheep from other churches. Jesus has made you fishermen – you are fishing for people that do not know the Gospel or Jesus. But most of the young people coming have friends and family that could be encouraged to come on a Friday night. You have friends and family you can encourage as well.

Suggestion: Why not as a team come up with a “youth pamphlet come track” that you could make up and have printed that you could go out and hand to every young person you come across ?? Let the creative aspects of the team do this together.

## 4. Follow up every connection that you obtain

Do not let anyone down. Make sure that every contact that you make or given – follow up with a phone call, visit – in which you can encourage that contact to come on Friday night. Remember if you have made the contact – and they show interest to come – make a plan to get them picked up for youth – or better still, invite them to have some supper with you before the youth group on Friday night, then they will come with you.

# Mentoring

## What is mentoring ?

Mentoring is a relational experience where one person empowers another (and a small group) by sharing God-given knowledge, experiences and resources.

It is important to note that a mentoring relationship is not one that can happen in a very large group. Mentoring, in its truest form, is an intensive investment.

This type of investment takes a great deal of time, energy and resources – therefore can only be done effectively when it is CONSISTENT. Jesus knew this. He only chose the men who would continue His work – so He only chose 12.

As He mentored them, He empowered them with the knowledge and principles of the Kingdom – so that they would be able to mentor others in the same way.

## Starting a Mentoring relationship

Take piece of paper and ask the group to write down as many of the young people that they can remember. Compare this with everyone else – strike out any duplicates and determine who will keep that person on his/her list. Then with the group try to remember if you have left anyone off the list – adding these young people to one of the lists as you remember.

Once this is complete – each person should have about 10 young people on his/her list ?

Then give them a drawn up list – instructing them that very coming Friday – they are to make sure the list is filled in and complete with names, addresses, phone numbers, birthdays etc. for those who are each list per person.

## Now what ?

With the detailed lists complete – compile them into a full youth address list – but the one you have – these are the young people that you will take very special care for. Remember this must not be an exclusive group – make it easy for newcomers to fit in and be what God wants them to be.

It is now your responsibility to:

- Give them a call and find out how they are doing
- If you don't have a phone – then maybe a visit will do the trick
- Make sure that they get greeted on their birthdays
- Make sure you know when they are writing exams and how things are going at school
- In the atmosphere of caring – continue to watch for signs of problems such as drugs, abuse, and sex
- If they are not there on a Friday night – make sure you follow up and see why ?

# Developing your Leadership Team

With the team together, it is important to develop the team – so that each person within scope of God's calling will be able to minister to the young people. Young leaders should have more than a willingness to just work with young people. It is a calling. Some basic training and development is needed. Here are few ways to develop the team to be effective in what God is calling for each one of you to do.

## 1. Make and communicate the Vision

It is important the Vision to be written down and each young leader must know it by heart. Once everyone know the Vision – they must then know what they are to do and responsibility. Everyone knows his/her place.

## 2. Keep each other in the loop

Communicate with each other – keep each other informed of what is happening. If a program has been set – everyone person must know what they are to do. No bad planning must be shown to the young people. Sort out all your problems before the Friday night. Make sure everyone gets a chance to lead.

## 3. Invest time with each other

Don't let Friday night be the only time when you get together. Make time when you guys can get together and spending time together. Invest your talents and energies into each other. Develop relationships that will stand you in good stead.

## 4. Build a team

At all times let the young people see that you are building a team. In that team the young people see that you care for each other. Remember: they follow from example.

## 5. Give each person responsibility to lead

In your team meetings – set up a program in which each person is given a chance to lead. Each person chose a theme of what they would like to do – and let them lead with your support and assistance. Don't leave them out there to do it all alone – you are a team.

## 6. Set high standards according to the Vision, Purpose and Philosophy

Do not accept sub-standard stuff or programs. Young people will pick it up that you are not well prepared, organized or going through the motions. So do everything to that high standard – remember it is young lives that you are dealing with for eternity.

## 7. Give honest feedback and recognition

Be honest with each other – you are a team. Don't do this in front of the young people – but in the times you meet together – share honestly with each other. Remember you are not called to be a critic but a team member – so remember that other person has feelings as well. Spend time in prayer asking God to give you the right words to say, which will encourage, instead of breaking down.

# Barriers to an Effective Team

Even though teams can improve in ministry as time goes – there are barriers that are created by each other.

## What are these barriers ?

- Insecurity – young leaders feel insecure because they can't lead like any of the other members of the team
- Inadequate – young leaders feel inadequate because of past training or the ability to translate the teaching, training and equipping they have received into simple ways to reach young people
- Control – one or all young leaders will try to control and do everything – because they feel the other leaders can't do it
- Clear direction – if there is not clear plan to what needs to happen – confusion
- Eternal perspective – some young leaders only see for now – and not for eternity. Some of the things you will try to bring in will take weeks, months etc – don't lose patience in doing what you have set out with the VPP
- Influence – outside influence from parents within the leadership group and young people. Parents wants to control the issues from outside using the young leaders or young people – this can come through leadership control, money, power or having the ability to be there
- Finance – due to the lack of money with young people's groups – they find it hard to do certain things. Ask yourself this question: Is the young people's group based on money or relating to young people for the purpose of the Kingdom ?

## How do you overcome these type and other barriers ?

By developing the team and relationships.

# Team Characteristics and Development

While this is not an exhaustive list, the following characteristics are the kind that each team member must have or develop – to be a great team in reaching young people.

- Good listening skills
- Empathy for young people`s perspective on life
- Enjoy young people – they do not drive you bats
- Spiritually strong
- Controlled emotions – very stable – not rocked by anything
- Able to develop good and strong relationships
- Patient
- To be flexible at all times
- Affirming – to affirm and encourage everyone around you
- A sense of humour – learn to laugh and enjoy yourself – have a blast
- Very principled – but not judgemental – remember you are caring for young people with an eternal purpose in mind
- Dependable – you are always there – your focus is on what God has called you to do

# Ministry Tips

This will help you with some tips of how to run an effective ministry toward the young people that God has called you to.

## General Tips

- Be creative
- Have a clear vision – and know what the vision is
- Help others to have and feel ownership to the ministry and vision
- Draw only the best out of the young people at all times
- Make sure you know what your role is in the VPP
- Don't be pushy with your views and ideas
- Be flexible – it is okay to plan (and you must plan) but be ready to change if necessary
- Be teachable
- Be accessible and approachable – qualities of mentorship
- Don't try or pretend that you know it all – also use as much help as possible
- Be a team player – develop the skill of using those around you
- Create curiosity and spark interest to get others involved and part of the plan
- You know the VPP – now plan to minister to the young people accordingly
- Don't expect things to happen – make them happen.
- Don't expect – but inspect
- Don't assume the young people will turn up – call them, care for them, make them feel part of it
- Challenge: Make lemonade out of lemons. Turn bad situations into good
- Make the best of every situation
- Make every minute count for the Gospel and eternity

## Tips on Building Healthy Relationships

- Learn to listen to the those leaders around you
- Learn to listen to the young people
- Learn everyone's name
- Show genuine interest in their lives – leaders and young people
- Accept people as they are – let the Holy Spirit do the changing
- Develop a sense of humour – learn to laugh and cry with them
- Attend events that the young people are involved in outside of the church
- Initiate – even if it feels strange – but learn to be guided by the Spirit of God
- Speak naturally and conversationally – don't try to speak like someone else
- Be yourself – don't try to be someone you are not
- Spend time praying for the leadership and the young people – especially those on your list
- Communicate your enthusiasm rather than flaunt your doubts
- Don't force yourself into situations that you are not called to
- Earn the right to be heard
- Be sensitive to boundaries to time, physical contact, emotions, and differences in maturity
- Friendship before functions – you must be friends before you can minister

# Counseling Young People

Counseling young people is becoming more and more common within today`s ministry to young people than ever before. It is important to know what to do.

When Jesus was brought the woman who was caught in the act of adultery. He knelt down beside her and wrote in the sand. We don`t know what He wrote, be He took the attention off the woman and the act, and gave comfort to her and assured her of forgiveness. This is the example you must follow.

The key to counseling is reaching the point that the young person comes to:

1. The end of his/her self
2. Turns from the sin and repents
3. And moves towards Jesus

This is what you hope to accomplish when working with young people – to set them on a healthy course of life full of hope and direction. This is why you come along aside the young people right there in their own world – so that you can earn the right to be heard. After earning that right, you must take advantage of the opportunity to seize the moment and take the young person to the Cross of Jesus.

**Caution:** Try to avoid counseling young people of the opposite sex. Guys should meet with guys and girls should meet with girls. At all times – you must leave the door open.

## In a crisis situation

This would include abuse, suicidal tendency, pregnancy, drugs, alcohol, legal troubles and family problems.

How are a few things to remember.

- Assure the young person that you care and will work this through with them
- Don`t agree to keep the situation secret – confidential yes – but not secret
- Let them know you are committed to the leadership of the youth and church – and if the situations is that serious you will have to share the matter with those concerned
- But let them know if they trust you – you will see them through this bad situations

# 12 Steps to help Youth Leadership

## 1. Know the culture but not necessarily live it

When dealing with young people, it is important for the leadership to be aware of the changes in music, entertainment, dress code, latest attraction, new drugs on the market (keep your ear to the ground of what is happening – even phone and speak to the Drug Squad) and education. This will enable the leadership to effectively evaluate how these changes may affect the young people's lifestyle and thought patterns – giving you the edge on things. However, it is often a mistake to try to emulate the styles in order to be “cool” and accepted. The leadership must always be cognizant of the age (their own as well) and resist the temptation to “be young” again. Trying to move outside of your own culture, can result in the young people focusing on your attempts at relating and accepted that on what you are trying to say and do.

## 2. Never let the young people hear you reflect negatively on God or His Word

As leaders, you are not immune to life's problems, although the problems might be different to the ones the young people are experiencing. You must try get to the place in your life, where you can say like Job: “though He slay me, still I will trust Him.” Young people need to see that our opinions and feelings toward God are not reflective of our current circumstances. How can you expect them to either turn to, or trust God when they see a wavering in you.

## 3. Know and continue to study your Bible

Be a firm believer (by setting an example) that everything that God wants you to know, is found in the Scriptures. You must show and set the example for the young people – that the answers are in the Bible – just read and study it. If you don't – don't expect the young people to as well. If you don't come with your Bible to Friday night – then the young people won't. Encourage them to do this.

## 4. Attribute everything found in life to God's design

As the Creator, God is responsible for all things on this earth. Every event in life is an opportunity to bring Him into the equation, whether it be a movie, TV show, song, news article or some personal joy/tragedy. Try to take every chance to see that whatever is of interest to the young people at that moment, and relate it to Jesus Christ and the lifestyle in which we all must walk.

## 5. Resist being “too” personal

It may be hard, but young leaders are not intended to take the place of the natural family relationships that God has ordained. Young leaders must help with many of the problems that young people find themselves in – but there is a danger of becoming more than a “spiritual” help – be careful of the exposed emotions and when trust is transferred. Remember to keep a safe distance between the person and problem.

## 6. Avoid talking about your sacrifices

Try not to remind the young people of how much you are giving up to lead them. Don't talk about the places you could have been instead of being here leading them. Focus on what God has called you to do – that is be part of the leadership to young people – nothing else.

## 7. Maintain solid relationships

For those married – this is of primary importance. Your spouse and family come first in the eyes of God.

For those not married – the focus is on the family. Don't let the ministry to young people cause the break down of the relationship within your family.

8. Let your concern reach beyond “spiritual” things

Always remember that Jesus fed the 5000 when they were hungry. He knew that His message would not be as effective when the natural need of food (or anything else) was overwhelming. There are times when young people can not see anything else when some of the problem are clouding their vision. Be prepared to use your experience to help them or maturity and refer them to the church leadership if necessary. Be careful not to break the trust relationship you have built up with them. This help you give might be finding them a job, helping them write out a CV, helping with some studying, visiting and explaining to the “unsaved parents” what the youth ministry is trying to achieve.

9. Be able to laugh at yourself and be laughed at

It is always good to not take yourself too seriously. Any sense of self-importance will not only hurt you but what you are trying to achieve with the young people. Life is hard, and sometimes laughing at yourself and some of the things you do at times – is good medicine for you and those around you. Isn't there something comical in the fact of what you do and try to achieve at times. Have a good laugh and let the young people laugh at you and with you.

10. Don't substitute programs for personal time and research

In this age of instant information and the Internet – there is a temptation to take shortcuts and go through the motions of what you do for the yourself and the young people. Using other people's messages and devotionals will not help. They are great to use as part of your own study and time with God. But the young people are interested in what you know. They don't care about nor do they even know the other people (you keep quoting and using), when they have a problem – it is your they are going come to. In your own study and time with God – let God speak to you and let all the other stuff supplement your knowledge and growth in the Lord.

11. Don't be a rebel without a cause

All young people like to believe that they are battling the establishment that doesn't understand their peculiar culture. It is important for you as part of the youth leadership to be supportive of the place (church) where you minister and get ministered to. This does not mean that you agree with everything that goes on. It only means that if there are issues, they need to be yours and you are to take them to the eldership to sort out. The Youth Group shouldn't be a forum for disagreement. Problems raised by the young people, must be dealt with in the manner that the correct lines of authority are given the opportunity to deal with them.

12. Make it your mission to mentor someone

Try to leave some sort of legacy or impact. You are given the opportunity to raise up the next generation of leadership – use it correctly.

# Seven habits of highly ineffective leaders

Written by Dave Kraft

Stephen Covey wrote a book describing the seven habits of highly effective people. Well, if there are habits that people can acquire to make them effective, then there are also habits that leaders will want to shed that cause them to be ineffective. Here are some I have been thinking about and working on:

Leaders who want to be effective will be CAREFUL that they are not:

## 1. Spending too much time MANAGING and not enough time LEADING

Leadership guru Warren Bennis notes that most organizations are over-managed and under-led. There are major differences between managing and leading. Here are a few: Generally speaking:

- Managers think short term – leaders long term
- Managers control and minimize change – leaders initiate change
- Managers are reactive (responding to ideas) – leaders are proactive (creating ideas)
- Managers solve problems – leaders create excitement generating more problems
- Managers are process-oriented (how it is done) – leaders are result-oriented (why and if it is done)
- Managers motivate by rules and regulations – leaders by empowerment and vision

## 2. Spending too much time in COUNSELING the hurting and not enough time in DEVELOPING leaders

John Maxwell makes the observation that people with very strong mercy gifts don't function well in visionary leadership. They don't want to hurt anybody or make decisions that offend or cause conflict. Those leaders who know they have a strong mercy side must be very careful about who they spend time with. All their available time and energy will go to the hurting and the discouraged, leaving no time to develop future leaders which is the leadership's main responsibility. The hurting will find you. You will have to find the leaders.

## 3. Spending too much time FIGHTING fires and not enough time LIGHTING fires

Leadership needs to be a proactive fire lighter, not a reactive fire fighter. Many leaders spend so much time dealing with issues in a crisis mode that they have precious little time left to deal with the longer term issues so as to not be caught behind the change curve.

## 4. Spending too much time DOING and not enough time PRAYING, DREAMING AND PLANNING

Heard the expression: Just don't sit there – do something. Leaders need to practice: Just don't do something – sit there. A good leader will balance out:

- Doing and dreaming
- Active and quiet
- Energized and hibernating

A good leader will have less on the “do list” and free up time to “just sit there” and not be always chasing his own tail light in the traffic of life.

Many leaders are entirely too busy with the day-to-day issues and spend comparatively little time in creative dreaming, and time alone with God. Peter Drucker says that action without thinking is the cause of every failure.

5. Spending too much time TEACHING the many and not enough time TRAINING the few

The war will not be won from behind the pulpit. Many leaders invest entirely too much time in public teaching in spite of the fact that statistics show that 70-80% of most audiences are not listening and will not apply what they are getting. Speaking to the crowds needs to be balanced out with investing quality and quantity time with the few who can and will reproduce – 2 Timothy 2:2

6. Spending too much time DOING IT THEMSELVES and not enough time DOING IT THROUGH OTHERS

Little people do it all by themselves – big people get others to help them. You have two choices in your leadership.

- Do it yourself
- Get other to help you carry the load – Numbers 11:17

Your willingness and determination to work through others, more than anything else, may well define your effectiveness and success in ministry. Working through others brings out new leaders. Today is the day of the team and collaborative leadership – not the Lone Ranger, one man bands.

7. Making too many decisions based on ORGANIZATIONAL POLITICS and too few decisions based on BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES

I wish we had more leaders (in the church as well as in the private and public sectors) who will do the Biblically correct thing and are not overly worried about the politically correct thing. Leaders who don't hold their wet finger in the wind to see which way it is blowing but using the same finger to turn the pages of the Bible to see which way the Spirit of God wants to move.

So in summary – truly effective leaders will:

- LEAD – not merely manage
- DEVELOP future leaders
- LIGHT new fires
- Spend time PRAYING, DREAMING AND PLANNING
- By TRAINING the few and not TEACHING the many
- Do MINISTRY through others
- Make BIBLICALLY correct decisions

# 10 Traits of a healthy Youth Group

A healthy Youth Group is always reliant upon God`s power and the authority of His Word, and values:

- God`s empowering Presence
  - God-exalting praise and worship
  - Spiritual disciplines
  - Learning and Growing in Community
  - A Commitment to loving and caring relationships
  - Servant-Leadership development
  - An outward focus
  - Wise administration and accountability
  - Networking with the Body of Jesus Christ
  - Stewardship and Generosity
- 

## 1. God`s empowering Presence

The healthy Youth Group will actively seek the Holy Spirit`s direction and empowerment for its daily life and ministry

In seeking to understand and implement God`s will – the Youth Leadership:

- 1.1. Articulates a clear understanding of who God is
- 1.2. Teaches the whole counsel of God, and relates it to the contemporary Christian walk
- 1.3. Emphasizes a supernatural-reliance instead of a self-reliance
- 1.4. Creates enthusiasm about being a part of the Kingdom of God
- 1.5. Prays for God`s initiative and anticipates that God will act
- 1.6. Encourages its leaders to be change-agents under God`s guidance
- 1.7. Desires the Fruit of the Spirit for all the young people
- 1.8. Seeks the Gifts of the Spirit within the young people

*The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God`s children.*

**Romans 8:16**

## 2. God-exalting Praise and Worship

The healthy Youth Group gathers regularly to praise and worship God in ways that engage the heart, mind, soul and strength of the young people – not just another sing-a-long.

2.1. Corporate praise and worship is the ongoing reminder of:

- 2.1.1. The Lordship of Jesus Christ
- 2.1.2. The Power of the Holy Spirit
- 2.1.3. The redemptive work of God the Father amongst the young people
- 2.1.4. The truths of God`s Word
- 2.1.5. The need to share the Gospel
- 2.1.6. To serve others in need

2.2. Worship includes such elements as:

- 2.2.1. Prayer – adoration, praise, thanksgiving, confession, and petition
- 2.2.2. Reading of Scripture
- 2.2.3. Preaching God`s Word for instruction, guidance, encouragement, comfort, challenge and rebuke
- 2.2.4. Baptism and Communion

- 2.2.5. Singing songs and hymns that praise God and encourages all
- 2.2.6. Affirmation of those things we believe in
- 2.2.7. Giving our tithes and offerings
- 2.2.8. Dedication to the service of God in our lives

*Yet at time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks.*

**John 4:23**

3. Spiritual Disciplines

The healthy Youth Group provides training, models, and resources for members of all ages to develop their daily spiritual disciplines.

These disciplines include such things as:

- 3.1. Bible Study
- 3.2. Personal Worship
- 3.3. Confession
- 3.4. Praying for self and others
- 3.5. Having a quiet time, devotions with a journal to record everything
- 3.6. Recognizing and utilizing all spiritual gifts to His Glory
- 3.7. Listening to God`s Voice and what He is saying
- 3.8. Pursuing with passion God`s will for your life
- 3.9. Growing to full Christ-like maturity
- 3.10. Instilling a strong sense of integrity, honesty and uprightness
- 3.11. Growing as a person in body, mind and spirit as the Spirit of God leads

*But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure, then peace, loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.*

**James 3:17**

4. Learning and Growing in Community

A healthy Youth Group encourages all the young people to grow in their walk with God and with others within the context of a safe, affirming environment.

The healthy Youth Group accomplishes this objective by:

- 4.1. Enabling young people to see Jesus clearly
- 4.2. Helping young people know His will for them
- 4.3. Teaching, training and equipping young people to follow Him in all aspects of life
- 4.4. Helping the young people to find his/her calling within the church, local and translocal
- 4.5. Encouraging young people to discover and use their God-given gifts and talents – TTE them to use them accordingly
- 4.6. Providing the settings for young people to come together for TTE, prayer, sharing and service – it does this by and through:
  - 4.6.1. Individual and group mentoring
  - 4.6.2. Group Bible Studies and discipleship training
  - 4.6.3. Variety of TTE – all planned and organized by the youth leadership

*Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.*

**Romans 14:19**

5. A Commitment to Loving and Caring Relationships

A healthy Youth Group is intentional in its efforts to build loving, caring relationships with the young people and their families, the extended church family in the local church and surrounding areas.

The healthy Youth Group understands, models, teaches and affirms the essential elements of quality relationships and recognizes the needs to those young people who come from dysfunctional families. The Youth Group serves as an affirming place for families, the marriage of the parents and all phases of family development.

The healthy Youth Group builds relationships within the young people through:

- 5.1. Modeling authenticity and affirming it in others
- 5.2. Sharing our lives with each other – no matter who
- 5.3. Caring – genuine care for each other – not lip service
- 5.4. Having open communication at all times
- 5.5. Conflict resolution
- 5.6. Fostering genuine forgiveness
- 5.7. Bringing healing to all concerned
- 5.8. Bearing one another`s burdens – remember the safe place

The healthy Youth Group acknowledges and encourages great diversity within the young people, and teaches the young people how to work together, disagree with love and respect, and creatively resolve conflicts and disagreements.

*This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.*

**1 John 3:16**

6. Servant-Leadership Development

The healthy Youth Group identifies and develops individuals whom God has called and given the Gift of Leadership, and challenges them to become Servant-Leaders.

6.1. For Youth Group government – the Youth Group:

- 6.1.1. Is lead by young people who understand the VPP of the young people – communicating it clearly to all the young people so that the vision becomes a reality
- 6.1.2. Motivates potential young people leaders by challenging them to serve other for the Glory of God
- 6.1.3. Develop a sense of loyalty within the young people and church
- 6.1.4. Encourage new and stable leadership
- 6.1.5. Evaluates the youth`s effectiveness, how it manages change and what plans it has for the future
- 6.1.6. Seeks to unify the young people behind the church and the leadership of the church

6.2. For ministry – the Youth Group:

- 6.2.1. Creates an environment in which young people (male and female) with ministry gifts to be developed to serve others as servant-leaders
- 6.2.2. Encourages the young people at all times to participate
- 6.2.3. Makes sure that the ministry is developed and based as a team ministry

*From Him (Christ) the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.*

**Ephesians 4:16**

7. An Outward focus

The healthy Youth Group places high priority on communicating the truth of Jesus and demonstrating the love of Jesus to those outside the faith – first in the town which the youth group serves, then to surrounding town and the outer parts of the world.

Specifically, the youth group with an outward focus has a growing sense of the importance of outreach, and:

- 7.1. Intentionally communicates the Gospel in culturally relevant ways to those outside the family of God
  - 7.2. Commits to the passing on of the faith to the next generation
  - 7.3. Demonstrates to the world through acts of love, justice, and mercy that God came in the flesh – in the form of Jesus Christ
  - 7.4. Welcomes and enfolds a steady stream of new people at all stages of their spiritual journey:
    - 7.4.1. Always seeking non-believers
    - 7.4.2. Recent converts
    - 7.4.3. Enthusiastic young Christians
    - 7.4.4. Believers with questions, doubts and struggles
    - 7.4.5. Active Kingdom builders
    - 7.4.6. Wiser, older Christians
  - 7.5. Experiments continually to find more effective ways to communicate the Gospel to non-believers in the family, marketplace, community, neighbourhood, surrounding towns and the world
  - 7.6. Develops a strategy for global awareness and international mission involvement
- For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.*

**Luke 19:10**

8. Wise Administration and Accountability

The healthy Youth Group utilizes appropriate facilities, equipment, and systems to provide maximum support for the growth and development of the young people.

The healthy Youth Group fosters wise administration and accountability as it:

- 8.1. Strives for excellence, effectiveness and efficiency through management practices that emphasize responsibility and accountability
- 8.2. Creates support systems to meet the functional needs of the young people
- 8.3. Conducts ongoing evaluation of the progress of the young people against the VPP
- 8.4. Develops a broad base of support for all the young people (members or not)
- 8.5. Plans for the development of the next generation of leaders within the framework of the VPP
- 8.6. Conducts an honest assessment of the strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats to the leadership – and how will these be overcome
- 8.7. Thinks and acts strategically according to the plan that has already been set out

*So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches ?*

**Luke 16:11**

9. Networking with the Body of Jesus Christ

The healthy Youth Group reaches out to others in the Body of Jesus Christ for collaboration, resource sharing, learning opportunities and united celebrations of worship.

Networking with the Body of Jesus Christ includes such things as:

- 9.1. The Youth leaders within the same town meeting together, to have a meal, pray and encourage each other – if this does not happen – make it happen
- 9.2. The Body of Jesus Christ does not overlap or compete with the ministries and outreaches – but rather works together – to do this you have to talk to each other
- 9.3. When there is some training (especially youth leadership) in the church – invite all the other youth leaderships to come
- 9.4. Joint celebrations of worship must be planned
- 9.5. Sharing talents, resources and even man power – builds the Body of Jesus Christ

*May they (the church) be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.*

**John 17:23**

## 10. Stewardship and Generosity

The healthy Youth Group teaches the young people that they are stewards of their God-given talents, resources and callings – challenging them to be sacrificially share them with others.

The attitude of the youth leadership and the young people – it the tangible expression of the attitude of Jesus that other young people will see and get to know – it is important on how to handle this with them. This will help by:

- 10.1. Teaching on generosity and financial giving and planning
- 10.2. Sharing facilities and programs with others
- 10.3. Giving monthly to outreach and the reaching of the nations
- 10.4. Providing abundantly for those in need within the fellowship of believers, including the unemployed, the widowed, and single parents
- 10.5. Operating within the income that comes in – accounting for all contributions and expenses

*Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.*

**2 Corinthians 9:6**

# Examples

Here are a few suggestions when you try to see the VPP

## Four Enduring Values

1. We are a BIBLICAL young people... always asking questions: Where is that written ?
2. We are a DEVOTIONAL young people... challenging others with our lifestyle, actions and voice: Are you living and alive for Jesus Christ ?
3. We are a MISSIONAL young people... desiring to see the lost people found both locally and translocal – and that hurting people will be healed and helped.
4. We are a RELATIONAL young people... relating with each other as friends and family, with compassion because Jesus loves us and them.

## Seven Opportunities

1. Reach the unchurched people – particularly those in emerging generations like children and young people.
2. Press forward into ethnic ministry and diversity.
3. Extend greater measures of compassion to the poor, hurting, unloved and desperate people.
4. Attend to the healthy of all the people God has placed under and with us.
5. Form spiritual mature disciples who live out the obedience to Jesus Christ in the world.
6. Call forth, teaching, training and equipping men and women in all aspects of leadership and ministry.
7. Pursue expanding strategic global opportunities and partnerships to plant churches and evangelise the lost worldwide.

The Books of the Bible

Order	Book Title(s)	Chapters	Verses
<b>I. Law</b>			
1.	The First Book of Moses Called Genesis	50	1533
2.	The Second Book of Moses Called Exodus	40	1213
3.	The Third Book of Moses Called Leviticus	27	859
4.	The Fourth Book of Moses Called Numbers	36	1288
5.	The Fifth Book of Moses Called Deuteronomy	34	959
<b>II. Old Testament Narrative</b>			
6.	The Book of Joshua	24	658
7.	The Book of Judges	21	618
8.	The Book of Ruth	4	85
9.	The First Book of Samuel	31	810
10.	The Second Book of Samuel	24	695
11.	The First Book of Kings	22	816
12.	The Second Book of Kings	25	719
13.	The First Book of Chronicles	29	942
14.	The Second Book of Chronicles	36	822
15.	The Book of Ezra	10	280
16.	The Book of Nehemiah	13	406
17.	The Book of Esther	10	167
<b>III. Wisdom Literature</b>			
18.	The Book of Job	42	1070
19.	The Book of Psalms	150	2461
20.	The Book of Proverbs	31	915
21.	The Book of Ecclesiastes	12	222
22.	The Song of Songs ( <i>or</i> Song of Solomon <i>or</i> Canticles)	8	117
<b>IV. Major Prophets</b>			
23.	The Book of Isaiah	66	1292
24.	The Book of Jeremiah	52	1364
25.	The Book of Lamentations	5	154
26.	The Book of Ezekiel	48	1273
27.	The Book of Daniel	12	357
<b>V. Minor Prophets</b>			
28.	The Book of Hosea	14	197
29.	The Book of Joel	3	73
30.	The Book of Amos	9	146
31.	The Book of Obadiah	1	21
32.	The Book of Jonah	4	48
33.	The Book of Micah	7	105
34.	The Book of Nahum	3	47
35.	The Book of Habakkuk	3	56
36.	The Book of Zephaniah	3	53
37.	The Book of Haggai	2	38
38.	The Book of Zechariah	14	211
39.	The Book of Malachi	4	55
<b>VI. New Testament Narrative</b>			
40.	The Gospel According to Matthew	28	1071
41.	The Gospel According to Mark	16	678
42.	The Gospel According to Luke	24	1151
43.	The Gospel According to John	21	879
44.	The Acts of the Apostles	28	1007
<b>VII. Pauline Epistles</b>			
45.	The Epistle of Paul to the Romans	16	433
46.	The First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians	16	437
47.	The Second Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians	13	257
48.	The Epistle of Paul to the Galatians	6	149
49.	The Epistle of Paul to the Ephesians	6	155
50.	The Epistle of Paul to the Philippians	4	104
51.	The Epistle of Paul to the Colossians	4	95
52.	The First Epistle of Paul to the Thessalonians	5	89
53.	The Second Epistle of Paul to the Thessalonians	3	47
54.	The First Epistle of Paul to Timothy	6	113
55.	The Second Epistle of Paul to Timothy	4	83
56.	The Epistle of Paul to Titus	3	46
57.	The Epistle of Paul to Philemon	1	25
<b>VIII. General Epistles</b>			
58.	The Epistle to the Hebrews	13	303
59.	The General Epistle of James	5	108
60.	The First Epistle of Peter	5	105
61.	The Second Epistle of Peter	3	61
62.	The First Epistle of John	5	105
63.	The Second Epistle of John	1	13
64.	The Third Epistle of John	1	14
65.	The Epistle of Jude	1	25
<b>IX. Apocalyptic Epistle</b>			
66.	The Book of Revelation ( <i>or</i> The Apocalypse of John)	22	404
<b>Total Number of Chapters and Verses</b>		<b>1189</b>	<b>31102</b>

## A Summary of the Contents of Each Bible Book

### Old Testament

**Genesis.** Describes the creation; gives the history of the old world, and of the steps taken by God toward the formation of theocracy.

**Exodus.** The history of Israel's departure from Egypt; the giving of the law; the tabernacle.

**Leviticus.** The ceremonial law.

**Numbers.** The census of the people; the story of the wanderings in the wilderness.

**Deuteronomy.** The law rehearsed; the death of Moses.

**Joshua.** The story of the conquest and partition of Canaan.

**Judges.** The history of the nation from Joshua to Samson.

**Ruth.** The story of the ancestors of the royal family of Judah

**1 Samuel.** The story of the nation during the judgeship of Samuel and the reign of Saul.

**2 Samuel.** Story of the reign of David.

**1 and 2 Kings.** The books of Kings form only one book in the Hebrew MSS. They contain the history of the nation from David's death and Solomon's accession to the destruction of the kingdom of Judah and the desolation of Jerusalem, with a supplemental notice of the liberation of Jehoiachin from his prison at Babylon, twenty-six years later; they comprehend the whole time of the Israelitish monarchy, exclusive of the reigns of Saul and David.

**The Books of Chronicles** are so called as being the record made by the appointed historiographers of the kingdoms of Judah and Israel; they are the official histories of those kingdoms.

**Ezra.** The story of the return of the Jews from the Babylonish captivity, and of the rebuilding of the temple.

**Nehemiah.** A further account of the rebuilding of the temple and city, and of the obstacles encountered and overcome.

**Esther.** The story of a Jewess who becomes queen of Persia and saves the Jewish people from destruction.

**Job.** The story of the trials and patience of a holy man of Edom.

**Psalms.** A collection of sacred poems intended for use in the worship of Jehovah. Chiefly the productions of David.

**Proverbs.** The wise sayings of Solomon.

**Ecclesiastes.** A poem respecting the vanity of earthly things.

**Solomon's Song.** An allegory relating to the church.

**Isaiah.** Prophecies respecting Christ and his kingdom.

**Jeremiah.** Prophecies announcing the captivity of Judah, its sufferings, and the final overthrow of its enemies.

**Lamentations.** The utterance of Jeremiah's sorrow upon the capture of Jerusalem and the destruction of the temple.

**Ezekiel.** Messages of warning and comfort to the Jews in their captivity.

**Daniel.** A narrative of some of the occurrences of the captivity, and a series of prophecies concerning Christ.

**Hosea.** Prophecies relating to Christ and the latter days.

**Joel.** Prediction of woes upon Judah, and of the favor with which God will receive the penitent people.

**Amos.** Prediction that Israel and other neighboring nations will be punished by conquerors from the north, and of the fulfillment of the Messiah's kingdom.

**Obadiah.** Prediction of the desolation of Edom.

**Jonah.** Prophecies relating to Nineveh.

**Micah.** Predictions relating to the invasions of Shalmaneser and Sennacherib, the Babylonish captivity, the establishment of a theocratic kingdom in Jerusalem, and the birth of the Messiah in Bethlehem.

**Nahum.** Prediction of the downfall of Assyria.

**Habakkuk.** A prediction of the doom of the Chaldeans.

**Zephaniah.** A prediction of the overthrow of Judah for its idolatry and wickedness.

**Haggai.** Prophecies concerning the rebuilding of the temple.

**Zechariah.** Prophecies relating to the rebuilding of the temple and the Messiah.

**Malachi.** Prophecies relating to the calling of the Gentiles and the coming of Christ.

### New Testament

**Gospel of St. Matthew.** A brief history of the life of Christ.

**Gospel of St. Mark.** A brief history of the life of Christ, supplying some incidents omitted by St. Matthew.

**Gospel of St. Luke.** The history of the life of Christ, with especial reference to his most important acts and discourses.

**Gospel of St. John.** The life of Christ, giving important discourses not related by the other evangelists.

**Acts of the Apostles.** The history of the labors of the apostles and of the foundation of the Christian Church.

**Epistle to the Romans.** A treatise by St. Paul on the doctrine of justification by Christ.

**First Epistle to the Corinthians.** A letter from St. Paul to the Corinthians, correcting errors into which they had fallen.

**Second Epistle to the Corinthians.** St. Paul confirms his disciples in their faith, and vindicates his own character.

**Epistle to the Galatians.** St. Paul maintains that we are justified by faith, and not by rites.

**Epistle to the Ephesians.** A treatise by St. Paul on the power of divine grace.

**Epistle to the Philippians.** St. Paul sets forth the beauty of Christian kindness.

**Epistle to the Colossians.** St. Paul warns his disciples against errors, and exhorts to certain duties.

**First Epistle to the Thessalonians.** St. Paul exhorts his disciples to continue in the faith and in holy conversation.

**Second Epistle to the Thessalonians.** St. Paul corrects an error concerning the speedy coming of Christ the second time.

**First and Second Epistles to Timothy.** St. Paul instructs Timothy in the duty of a pastor, and encourages him in the work of the ministry.

**Epistle to Titus.** St. Paul encourages Titus in the performance of his ministerial duties.

**Epistle to Philemon.** An appeal to a converted master to receive a converted escaped slave with kindness.

**Epistle to Hebrews.** St. Paul maintains that Christ is the substance of the ceremonial law.

**Epistle of James.** A treatise on the efficacy of faith united with good works.

**First and Second Epistles of Peter.** Exhortations to a Christian life, with various warnings and predictions.

**First Epistle of St. John.** Respecting the person of our Lord, and an exhortation to Christian love and conduct.

**Second Epistle of St. John.** St. John warns a converted lady against false teachers.

**Third Epistle of St. John.** A letter to Gaius, praising him for his hospitality.

**Epistle of St. Jude.** Warnings against deceivers.

**The Revelation.** The future of the Church foretold.

**Names, Titles and Characters of Jesus Christ**

**I.—And Simon Peter Answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Mat 16:16**

The Son	1Jo 4:14
The Son of God	Jhn 1:34
The Son of the living God	Mat 16:16
His only begotten Son	Jhn 3:16
The Son of the Father	1Jo 1:3
The only begotten of the Father	Jhn 1:14
The only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father	Jhn 1:18
The first-born of every creature	Col 1:15
His own Son	Rom 8:32
A Son given	Isa 9:6
One Son (his well-beloved)	Mar 12:6
My Son	Psa 2:7
His dear Son (or the Son of his love)	Col 1:13
The Son of the Highest	Luk 1:32
The Son of the Blessed	Mar 14:61
Secret	Jdg 13:18
Wonderful	Isa 9:6

**Testimony borne to the Son by the Father, by Jesus Himself, by the Spirit, by Angels, saints, men and devils.**

The Father, "My Beloved Son."	Mat 17:5
Jesus himself, "I am the Son of God."	Jhn 10:36
The Spirit, "The Son of God."	Mar 1:1
Gabriel, "The Son of God."	Luk 1:35; 2:11
John Baptist, "This is the Son of God."	Jhn 1:34
John, Apostle, "The Christ, the Son of God."	Jhn 20:31
Paul, Apostle, "He is the Son of God."	Act 9:20
Disciples, "Thou art the Son of God."	Mat 14:33
Nathaniel, "Rabbi, thou art the Son of God."	Jhn 1:49
Martha, "The Christ, the Son of God."	Jhn 11:27
Eunuch, "Jesus Christ is the Son of God."	Act 8:37
Centurion, "Truly this was the Son of God."	Mar 15:39
Unclean spirits, "Thou art the Son of God."	Mar 3:11
The Legion, "Thou Son of the Most High God."	Mar 5:7

**II.—Unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever. Hbr 1:8**

God	Jhn 1:1; Mat 1:23; Isa 40:3
Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever	Hbr 1:8
The Mighty God	Isa 9:6
The Everlasting God	Isa 40:28
The True God	1Jo 5:20
My Lord and my God	Jhn 20:28
God my Saviour	Luk 1:47
Over all, God blessed for ever. Amen	Rom 9:5
The God of the whole earth	Isa 54:5
God manifest in the flesh	1Ti 3:16
Our God and Savior	2Pe 1:1
The great God and our Saviour, Jesus Christ	Tts 2:13
Emanuel, God with us	Mat 1:23
The God of Abraham, The God of Isaac, The God of Jacob	Exd 3:2, 6
The Highest	Luk 1:76

**III.—Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am. Jhn 8:58. Holy, Holy, Holy is Jehovah of Hosts. Isa 6:3**

Jehovah	Isa 40:3
The Lord Jehovah	Isa 40:10
Jehovah my God	Zec 14:5
Jehovah of Hosts	Isa 6:3; Jhn 12:41
Jehovah, God of Hosts	Hsa 12:4, 5; Gen 32:24
The King, Jehovah of Hosts	Isa 6:5
The Strong and Mighty Jehovah	Psa 24:8
Jehovah, mighty in battle	Psa 24:8
The Man, Jehovah's Fellow	Zec 13:7
Jehovah-tsidkenu (the Lord our righteousness)	Jer 23:6
The Lord	Rom 10:13; Joe 2:32
The Lord of Glory	1Cr 2:8
The Same	Hbr 1:12; Psa 102:27
I am	Exd 3:14; Jhn 8:24
I am (before Abraham was)	Jhn 8:58
I am (whom they sought to kill)	Jhn 18:5, 6
I am (the Son of Man lifted up)	Jhn 8:28

I am (the Resurrection and the Life)	Jhn 11:25
<b>IV.—He is before All things, and by Him All things consist. Col 1:17</b>	
The Almighty, which is, and which was, and which is to come	Rev 1:8
The Creator of all things	Col 1:16
The Upholder of all things	Hbr 1:3
The Everlasting Father (or Father of Eternity)	Isa 9:6
The Beginning	Col 1:18
The Beginning and the Ending	Rev 1:8
The Alpha and the Omega	Rev 1:8
The First and the Last	Rev 1:17
The Life	1Jo 1:2
Eternal Life	1Jo 5:20
That Eternal Life which was with the Father	1Jo 1:2
He that liveth	Rev 1:18
<b>V.—No man hath seen God at any time; he hat Declared Him. Jhn 1:18</b>	
The Word	Jhn 1:1
The Word was with God	Jhn 1:1
The Word was God	Jhn 1:1
The Word of God	Rev 19:13
The Word of Life	1Jo 1:1
The Word was made flesh	Jhn 1:14
The Image of God	2Cr 4:4
The Image of the Invisible God	Col 1:15
The Express Image of his Person	Hbr 1:3
The Brightness of his Glory	Hbr 1:3
Wisdom	Pro 8:12, 22
The Wisdom of God	1Cr 1:24
The Power of God	1Cr 1:24
My Messenger	Isa 42:19
The Messenger of the Covenant	Mal 3:1
The Angel of Jehovah	Gen 22:15
The Angel of God	Gen 31:11, 13; Exd 14:19
The Angel of his presence	Isa 63:9
<b>VI.—Thou hast made Him a little lower than the angels. Hbr 2:7</b>	
The Man	Jhn 19:5
The Man Christ Jesus	1Ti 2:5
A Man approved of God	Act 2:22
The Second Man, the Lord from heaven	1Cr 15:47
The Son of Man	Mar 10:33
The Son of Abraham	Mat 1:1
The Son of David	Mat 1:1
The Son of Mary	Mar 6:3
The Son of Joseph (reputed)	Jhn 1:45
The Seed of the Woman	Gen 3:15
The Seed of Abraham	Gal 3:16, 19
Of the Seed of David	Rom 1:3
<b>VII.—Lo, I Come, to do thy will, O God. Hbr 10:9</b>	
The Babe	Luk 2:12
The Child	Isa 7:16
The Young Child	Mat 2:20
A Child Born	Isa 9:6
The Child Jesus	Luk 2:43
Her First-Born Son	Luk 2:7
The Sent of the Father	Jhn 10:36
The Apostle	Hbr 3:1
A Prophet	Act 3:22, 23
A Great Prophet	Luk 7:16
The Prophet of Nazareth	Mat 21:11
A Prophet mighty in deed and word	Luk 24:19
A Servant	Phl 2:7
The Servant of the Father	Mat 12:18
My Servant, O Israel	Isa 49:3
My Servant, the Branch	Zec 3:8
My Righteous Servant	Isa 53:11
A Servant of Rulers	Isa 49:7
A Nazarene, or Nazarite	Mat 2:23
The Carpenter	Mar 6:3
The Carpenter's Son (reputed)	Mat 13:55
<i>He Humbled himself...unto death</i>	Phl 2:8

A Stranger and an Alien	Psa 69:8
A Man of Sorrows	Isa 53:3
A Worm, and no Man	Psa 22:6
Accursed of God (or the Curse of God)	Deu 21:23
<b>VIII.—God hath given him A Name which is above every name. Phl 2:9, 10</b>	
Jesus	Mat 1:21
Jesus himself	Luk 24:15
I, Jesus	Rev 22:16
A Saviour, Jesus	Act 13:23
The Saviour of the World	1Jo 4:14
A Saviour, which is Christ the Lord	Luk 2:11
Jesus Christ	Rev 1:5
The Lord Jesus Christ	Col 1:2
Our Lord Jesus Christ himself	2Th 2:16
Jesus the Christ	Mat 16:20
Jesus Christ our Lord	Rom 5:21
Jesus Christ the Righteous	1Jo 2:1
Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, to-day and for ever	Hbr 13:8
Jesus of Nazareth	Act 22:8
Jesus Christ of Nazareth	Act 4:10
Lord Jesus	Act 7:59
Christ Jesus	1Ti 1:15
Christ	Mat 23:8
Messiah, which is called Christ	Jhn 4:25
Anointed	Psa 2:2; Act 4:27
Christ the Lord	Luk 2:11
The Lord Christ	Col 3:24
The Christ of God	Luk 9:20
The Lord's Christ	Luk 2:26
The Christ, the Son of the Blessed	Mar 14:61
The Christ, the Saviour of the World	Jhn 4:42
<b>IX.—Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, riches, wisdom, strength, honor, glory and blessing. Rev 5:12</b>	
The Lamb of God	Jhn 1:29
A Lamb without blemish and without spot	1Pe 1:19
The Lamb that was slain	Rev 5:12
A Lamb as it had been slain	Rev 5:6
The Lamb in the midst of the throne	Rev 7:17
The Bridegroom	Mat 9:15; Rev 21:9
The Lamb (the Temple of the City)	Rev 21:22
The Lamb (the Light of the City)	Rev 21:23
The Lamb (the Overcomer)	Rev 17:14
<b>X.—I will set up One Shepherd over them, and he shall feed them. Eze 34:23</b>	
One Shepherd	Jhn 10:16
Jehovah's Shepherd	Zec 13:7
The Shepherd of the Sheep	Hbr 13:20
The Way	Jhn 14:6
The Door of the Sheep	Jhn 10:7
The Shepherd of Israel	Eze 34:23
The Shepherd and Bishop of Souls	1Pe 2:25
The Good Shepherd (that laid down his life)	Jhn 10:11
The Great Shepherd (that was brought again from the dead)	Hbr 13:20
The Chief Shepherd (that shall again appear)	1Pe 5:4
<b>XI.—The Tree of Life in the midst of the Paradise of God. Rev 2:7</b>	
The Root of Jesse	Isa 11:10
The Root of David	Rev 5:5
The Root and Offspring of David	Rev 22:16
A Rod out of the stem of Jesse	Isa 11:1
A Branch out of his roots	Isa 11:1
The Branch	Zec 6:12
The Branch of the Lord	Isa 4:2
The Branch of Righteousness	Jer 33:15
A Righteous Branch	Jer 23:5
The Branch strong for thyself	Psa 80:15
The Vine	Jhn 15:5
The True Vine	Jhn 15:1
The Tree of Life	Rev 2:7
The Corn of Wheat	Jhn 12:24
The Bread of God	Jhn 6:33
The True Bread from Heaven	Jhn 6:32
The Bread which came down from Heaven	Jhn 6:41

The Bread which cometh down from Heaven	Jhn 6:50
The Bread of Life	Jhn 6:35
The Living Bread	Jhn 6:51
The Hidden Manna	Rev 2:17
A Plant of Renown	Eze 34:29
The Rose of Sharon	Sgs 2:1
The Lily of the Valley	Sgs 2:1
A Bundle of Myrrh	Sgs 1:13
A Cluster of Camphire	Sgs 1:14
<b>XII.—I am the Light of the world; he that followeth me shall have the Light of Life. Jhn 8:12</b>	
The Light	Jhn 12:35
The True Light	Jhn 1:9
A Great Light	Isa 9:2
A Light came into the world	Jhn 12:46
The Light of the world	Jhn 8:12
The Light of men	Jhn 1:4
A Light to lighten the Gentiles	Luk 2:32
A Light of the Gentiles	Isa 42:6
A Star	Num 24:17
The Morning Star	Rev 2:28
The Bright and Morning Star	Rev 22:16
The Day Star	2Pe 1:19
The Day-spring from on High	Luk 1:78
The Sun of Righteousness	Mal 4:2
<b>XIII.—The name of the Lord is a Strong Tower. Pro 18:10</b>	
The Strength of the children of Israel	Joe 3:12-16
A Strength to the Poor	Isa 25:4
A Strength to the needy in distress	Isa 25:4
A Refuge from the Storm	Isa 25:4
A Covert from the Tempest	Isa 32:2
The Hope of his people	Joe 3:12-16
A Horn of Salvation	Luk 1:69
<b>XIV.—They drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. 1Cr 10:4</b>	
The Rock	Mat 16:18
My Strong Rock	Psa 31:2
The Rock of Ages	Isa 26:4
The Rock that is higher than I	Psa 61:2
My Rock and my Fortress	Psa 31:3
The Rock of my Strength	Psa 62:7
The Rock of my Refuge	Psa 94:22
A Rock of Habitation	Psa 71:3
The Rock of my Heart	Psa 73:26
The Rock of my Salvation	2Sa 22:47
My Rock and my Redeemer	Psa 19:14
That Spiritual Rock	1Cr 10:4
The Rock that followed them	1Cr 10:4
A Shadow from the Heat	Isa 25:4
<b>XV.—Other Foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. 1Cr 3:11</b>	
The Builder	Hbr 3:3; Mat 16:18
The Foundation	1Cr 3:11
A Sure Foundation	Isa 28:16
A Stone	Isa 28:16
A Living Stone	1Pe 2:4
A Tried Stone	Isa 28:16
A Chief Corner-stone	1Pe 2:6
An Elect Stone	1Pe 2:6
A Precious Stone	1Pe 2:6
The Head Stone of the Corner	Psa 118:22
A Stone cut out without hands	Dan 2:34, 45
<i>But unto them which are disobedient,</i>	—
A Stone of Stumbling	1Pe 2:8
A Rock of Offence	1Pe 2:8
<b>XVI.—In his Temple every Whit of it uttereth his glory. Psa 29:9</b>	
The Temple	Rev 21:22
A Sanctuary	Isa 8:14
The Minister of the Sanctuary and of the True Tabernacle	Hbr 8:2
Minister of the Circumcision	Rom 15:8
The Veil (his flesh)	Hbr 10:20
The Alter	Hbr 13:10
The Offerer	Hbr 7:27

The Offering	Eph 5:2
The Sacrifice	Eph 5:2
A Ransom (his life)	Mar 10:49
The Lamb	Rev 7:9
The Lamb Slain	Rev 13:8
<i>Within the Veil—</i>	—
The Forerunner (for us entered, even Jesus)	Hbr 6:20
The Mercy-seat (or Propitiation)	Rom 3:25
The Priest	Hbr 5:6
The High Priest	Hbr 3:1
The Great High Priest	Hbr 4:14
The Mediator	1Ti 2:5
The Daysman	Job 9:33
The Interpreter	Job 33:23
The Intercessor	Hbr 7:25
The Advocate	1Jo 2:1
The Surety	Hbr 7:22
<b>XVII.—A Gift is a precious stone in the eyes of him that hath it; whithersoever it turneth, it prospereth. Pro 17:8</b>	
The Gift of God	Jhn 4:10; 3:16
His Unspeakable Gift	2Cr 9:15
My Beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased	Mat 12:18
Mine Elect, in whom my soul delighteth	Isa 42:1
The Holy Child Jesus	Act 4:27
The Chosen of God	Luk 23:35
The Salvation of God	Luk 2:30
The Salvation of the daughter of Zion	Isa 62:11
The Redeemer	Isa 59:20
The Shiloh (Peace-Maker)	Gen 49:10
The Consolation of Israel	Luk 2:25
The Blessed	Psa 77:17
The Most Blessed for ever	Psa 21:6
<b>XVIII.—Who was Faithful to Him that appointed him. Hbr 3:2</b>	
The Truth	Jhn 14:6
The Faithful and True	Rev 19:11
A Covenant of the people	Isa 42:6
The Testator or Covenanter	Hbr 9:16, 17
The Faithful Witness	Rev 1:5
The Faithful and True Witness	Rev 3:14
A Witness to the People	Isa 55:4
The Amen	Rev 3:14
<b>XIX.—He that is Holy, he that is True. Rev 3:7</b>	
The Just	1Pe 3:18
The Just One	Act 7:52
Thine Holy One	Act 2:27
The Holy One and the Just	Act 3:14
The Holy One of Israel	Isa 49:7
The Holy One of God	Mar 1:24
Holy, Holy, Holy	Isa 6:3; Jhn 12:41
<b>XX.—That in All things he might have the Pre-Eminence. Col 1:18</b>	
The Beginning of the Creation of God	Rev 3:14
My First-Born	Psa 89:27
The First-Born from the dead	Col 1:18
The First-Begotten of the dead	Rev 1:5
The First-Born among many Brethren	Rom 8:29
The First-Fruits of them that slept	1Cr 15:20
The Last Adam	1Cr 15:45
The Resurrection	Jhn 11:25
A Quickening Spirit	1Cr 15:45
The Head (even Christ)	Eph 4:15
The Head of the Body, the Church	Col 1:18
The Head over all things to the Church	Eph 1:22
The Head of every Man	1Cr 11:3
The Head of all Principality and Power	Col 2:10
<b>XXI.—Gird thy Sword upon thy thigh, O Most Mighty, with thy glory and thy majesty. Psa 45:3</b>	
The Captain of the Host of the Lord	Jos 5:14
The Captain of Salvation	Hbr 2:10
The Author and Finisher of Faith	Hbr 12:2
A Leader	Isa 55:4
A Commander	Isa 55:4
A Ruler	Mic 5:2

A Governor	Mat 2:6
The Deliverer	Rom 11:26
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah	Rev 5:5
An Ensign of the People	Isa 11:10
The Chiefest among Ten Thousand (in an army)	Sgs 5:10
A Polished Shaft	Isa 49:2
The Shield	Psa 84:9
<b>XXII.—All Power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Mat 28:18</b>	
The Lord	1Cr 12:3
One Lord	Eph 4:5
God hath made that same Jesus both Lord and Christ	Act 2:36
Lord of Lords	Rev 17:14
King of Kings	Rev 17:14
Lord both of the dead and living	Rom 14:9
Lord of the Sabbath	Luk 6:5
Lord of Peace	2Th 3:16
Lord of all	Act 10:36
Lord over all	Rom 10:12
<b>XXIII.—Him hath God Exalted to be a Prince and a Saviour. Act 5:31</b>	
The Messiah the Prince	Dan 9:25
The Prince of Life	Act 3:15
A Prince and a Saviour	Act 5:31
The Prince of Peace	Isa 9:6
The Prince of Princes	Dan 8:25
The Prince of the Kings of the earth	Rev 1:5
A Prince (among Israel)	Eze 34:24
The Glory of thy people Israel	Luk 2:32
He that filleth all in all	Eph 1:23
<b>XXIV.—He shall Reign for ever and ever. Rev 11:15</b>	
The Judge	Act 17:31
The Righteous Judge	2Ti 4:8
The King	Zec 14:16
The King of Kings	Rev 19:16
Lord of Lords	Rev 19:16
A Sceptre (out of Israel)	Num 24:17
The King's Son	Psa 72:1
David their King	Jer 30:9
The King of Israel	Jhn 1:49
King of the daughter of Zion	Jhn 12:15
The King of the Jews (born)	Mat 2:2; 15:2
The King of the Jews (crucified)	Jhn 19:19
The King of Saints or King of Nations	Rev 15:3
King over all the Earth	Zec 14:4, 5, 9
The King of Righteousness	Hbr 7:2
The King of Peace	Hbr 7:2
The King of Glory	Psa 24:10
The King in his beauty	Isa 33:17
He sitteth King for ever	Psa 29:10
Crowned with a Crown of Thorns	Jhn 19:2
Crowned with Glory and Honor	Hbr 2:9
Crowned with a Crown of Pure Gold	Psa 21:3
Crowned with many Crowns	Rev 19:12
<b>Allusions, Characteristics and Epithets</b>	
As a Refiner's Fire. As Fuller's Soap	Mal 3:2
As the Light of the Morning when the sun riseth, a morning without clouds. As the Tender Grass by clear shining after rain	2Sa 23:4
As a Tender Plant (to God). As a Root out of a dry ground (to man)	Isa 53:2
As Rain upon the mown grass. As Showers that water the earth	Psa 72:6
As Rivers of Water in a dry place. As the Shadow of a great Rock in a weary land. As an Hiding-place from the wind	Isa 32:2
As Ointment poured forth	Sgs 1:3
Fairer than the Children of Men	Psa 45:2
A glorious high Throne from the beginning is the place of our sanctuary	Jer 17:12
For a Glorious Throne to his father's house	Isa 22:23
A Crown of Glory and Beauty	Isa 28:5
A Stone of Grace	Pro 17:8
Nail fastened in a sure place	Isa 22:23
A Brother born for adversity	Pro 17:17
A Friend that sticketh closer than a brother	Pro 18:24
A Friend that loveth at all times	Pro 17:17

His Countenance is as the sun	Rev 1:16
His Countenance is as Lebanon	Sgs 5:15
Yea. He is altogether lovely. This is my beloved and my Friend	Sgs 5:16
<b>Consider Him</b>	
He was Obedient	Phl 2:8
He was Meek, Lowly	Mat 11:29
He was Guileless	1Pe 2:22
He was Tempted	Hbr 4:15
He was Oppressed	Isa 53:7
He was Despised	Isa 53:3
He was Rejected	Isa 53:3
He was Betrayed	Mat 27:3
He was Condemned	Mar 14:64
He was Reviled	1Pe 2:23
He was Scourged	Jhn 19:1
He was Mocked	Mat 27:29
He was Wounded	Isa 53:5
He was Bruised	Isa 53:5
He was Stricken	Isa 53:4
He was Smitten	Isa 53:4
He was Crucified	Mat 27:35
He was Forsaken	Psa 22:1
He is Merciful	Hbr 2:17
He is Faithful	Hbr 2:17
He is Holy, Harmless	Hbr 7:26
He is undefiled	Hbr 7:26
He is Separate	Hbr 7:26
He is Perfect	Hbr 5:9
He is Glorious	Isa 49:5
He is Mighty	Isa 63:1
He is Justified	1Ti 3:16
He is Exalted	Act 2:33
He is Risen	Luk 24:6
He is Glorified	Act 3:13
<b>The Lord is my Portion</b>	
My Maker, Husband	Isa 54:5
My Well-beloved	Sgs 1:13
My Saviour	2Pe 3:18
My Hope	1Ti 1:1
My Brother	Mar 3:35
My Portion	Jer 10:16
My Helper	Hbr 13:6
My Physician	Jer 8:22
My Healer	Luk 9:11
My Refiner	Mal 3:3
My Purifier	Mal 3:3
My Lord, Master	Jhn 13:13
My Servant	Luk 12:37
My Example	Jhn 13:15
My Teacher	Jhn 3:2
My Shepherd	Psa 23:1
My Keeper	Jhn 17:12
My Feeder	Eze 34:23
My Leader	Isa 40:11
My Restorer	Psa 23:3
My Resting-place	Jer 50:6
My Meat (his flesh)	Jhn 6:55
My Drink (his blood)	Jhn 6:55
My Passover	1Cr 5:7
My Peace	Eph 2:14
My Wisdom	1Cr 1:30
My Righteousness	1Cr 1:30
My Sanctification	1Cr 1:30
My Redemption	1Cr 1:30
My All in All	Col 3:11

# **Discipleship Challenge**

1. Read and Study the Word of God

Especially the Word of Jesus on Discipleship.

2. Learn to know the Voice of the Holy Spirit.

3. Practise the Present of God daily in my life.

4. Practise Repentance every day – forgiving others as you have been forgiven.

5. Renew your mind every – through the Word of God.

6. Practise Loyalty, Honesty, Integrity and Righteousness.

7. Walk in the Spirit of God – walking out the Fruits of the Spirit daily.

8. Do the Works of Jesus Christ.

9. Have a worship lifestyle.

10. Practise Godly priorities, goals and aims in your life.

The last three “chapters” taken from the Blue Letter Bible.