

Philosophy of Youth Ministry paper

Due November 19th, 2009

Build on your midterm; tell me what the ultimate purpose of youth ministry is.

Questions that should have been in your syllabus:

- What is the goal of youth ministry, and what are the means you will employ to attain that goal?
- When it comes to youth ministry what are the foundational /relevant Biblical passages and principles? How should your ministry be impacted by these?
- What is your plan to detect, develop and deploy leaders? What is their role?
- How do you relate to those in authority over you (pastors, parents, other)? How and when should you implement change when it may not align with their philosophy of ministry?

Questions that you should also consider:

- Can a teen be changed? How?
- What are the consequences of a student failing to treasure Christ?
 - Can a real believer fail in that calling?
 - How does this motivate us?
- Relationship with parents? How do you minister to parents?
- What are the “pipes” through which grace flows into the life of teens? (ie., spiritual disciplines, community, etc. How can a student have the grace of God flow into their soul?)
- How do you know when you’ve reached your goal (seeing and savoring) – what are some indicators?
- How do you help your teens and staff to treasure Christ?
- Can a believer will themselves to love God and can He hold us responsible for the consequences if we do not?
- How do you balance the comfort and call of the gospel?
- What is the role of the community in spiritual development? What responsibility does the individual have? Parents? Other Adults?
- How do you make disciples? Are you called to? How do you know (key passages)?
- Who do you disciple?
- What is the call to discipleship (the way of the cross)?
 - What are the implications of this?
 - How will you objectively measure this?
- Does God command us to worship Him / treasure Him? Where?
- What is the role of programs in your ministry?

Re-read your statement and ask yourself, is this distinctively Christian? In other words, could some other faith group (Islam, Mormon, etc) use your statement? Is your philosophy of youth ministry theologically accurate and Christ centered?