

YHT WORKSHOP SYNOPSES

STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR 21ST CENTURY YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry has a long and varied history. Youth ministry has a structure and form that was established long ago and practiced for many years. This class will present discussions and strategies for restructuring Youth Ministry for the 21st century. What should we keep? What should be tossed out? What should we refine and restructure? What foundational structures should we continue to build upon? This intensive class will discuss topics such as: (a) characterization of a 21st century youth leader; (b) principles of an effective youth ministry model; (c) implementing a youth ministry strategy; (d) managing and leading in youth ministry; (e) effective programming for maximum impact in youth ministry; and much more. If you're a new youth leader or a veteran interested in restructuring your ministry, join the discussion.

MINISTERING TO YOUTH WITH SAME-SEX ATTRACTION (Core Class)

These sessions aim to provide a Biblical understanding of the origins of same-sex attraction (examining social, familial, and spiritual causal factors). We will examine the heart and worldview motivations for same-sex behavior. Then we will explore how church leaders can help restore same-sex struggling youth in the context of grace-based teaching, community, and mentoring.

YOUTH MINISTRY & TECHNOLOGY: THESE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGING

Kids are looking at their phones instead of talking on them, having dozens of simultaneous conversations with chat, and are not worried about knowing something because they can just google the answer. With this new interconnected world it is both a new challenge to create authentic relationships and also a new opportunity! In this session you will get clear tools you can use to help your ministry become more effective in this new era.

MISSIONAL YOUTH MINISTRY: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES (Core Class)

Youth ministry in the 21st century must be grounded in a number of guiding convictions, such as deep and genuine spirituality, passionate proclamation of Jesus through lips and life, openness to other cultures, sharing of power and leadership responsibility, dependence on the Holy Spirit, and creativity in resource acquisition and development. There are others, but this list would get too long. Key questions we will address include:

- How do we figure out where our ministry really is in terms of connecting with the core of God's heart?
- Is it possible to see young people transformed into world-changing Christ-communicators?
- How do we discover our unique ministry identity and draw on the strengths of mission practice in the Church of God of Prophecy?
- What's the secret of getting out of the mono-cultural ministry ghetto?
- What kind of training do we need for short-term overseas mission experiences?
- What are the critical issues in raising support for mission trips?

UNLEASHING GOD'S WORD IN YOUTH AND CAMPING MINISTRIES

The Bible tells us that God's Word does not return void, but what's our responsibility in handling and presenting the Word? Our job is not to bring the text to life (God does that); we are to give His truth legs, moving it forward. How do we read and find truth? How do we create lessons, sermons, and messages from this truth? There's power in God's Word, and we hold the leash. In this class, we'll talk about how to understand and unleash that power in practical ways as we present and teach God's truth.

CREATIVE PROGRAMMING FOR CAMPING MINISTRIES

How do you produce effective, mind blowing ideas for camp? Where do you come up with themes? How do you create “the perfect schedule”? An even better question: How do you keep kids *busy* with enough *free time* while pouring deep into their spiritual souls and making it fun while giving them biblical answers to their sometimes adult problems that hinder them from growing even deeper spiritually when they go home? Whew! Sounds like we need to learn how to creatively program our camps!

LEADING EFFECTIVE SMALL GROUPS

In the land of SUV’s (the bigger, the better), mansions (debt doesn’t matter), Hollywood Stardom (even if we sell our souls), and mega churches (where a shepherd sometimes doesn’t know his flock and vice-versa), not many leaders see “smallness” as an effective means of ministry. However, “The discipleship, love, and intimacy that the 12 shared with Jesus cannot be replaced by the throngs pressing or the feeding of multitudes.” Both Jesus and his disciples made time for “fish and crackers on the beach, walk on water training and even hiking and mountain climbing.” This class will be a source of training, practical tips, insights, encouragement, and vision for building a healthy small group ministry that will transform lives through community.

THE ART OF FUNDRAISING

“Let’s go to the beach! No! Let’s go to the mountains! No! Let’s go to the Omega Conference!” Nothing unites a youth ministry together more than an overnight trip where teens are crammed in cars and vans for untold hours and are forced to talk to one another. And every trip is always filled with memories of how their lives were changed but before all that happens, the bills have to be paid, but with what? In this class you will learn the art of raising the necessary funds to do whatever your youth ministry wants to do! Discover valuable fundraisers, learn what an Individual Youth Account is and how to use it, and other valuable information that will make your parents smile the next time you say “youth trip”!

TRAINING: NOT JUST ANOTHER MEETING (Core Class)

Training is a vital component for effective ministry. We struggle at times to work out time and resources to train our volunteer staff. Let’s discuss creative, out of the box training techniques to ensure effective training for your staff.

TO BE OR NOT TO BE: LIFE IN MINISTRY

What are the criteria for a life in ministry? This course will give you principles that will help you to align and enrich family and ministry life as you fulfill your calling.

AWAKENINGS—BUILDING A YOUTH LED PRAYER MOVEMENT (Core Class)

Ever asked yourself, “how can I get my youth to make prayer a part of their life?” This course will give practical, proven strategies for building a youth led prayer movement from the ground up. It’ll get you excited about a “prayer meeting” all over again.

THE MAKING OF A YOUNG PENTECOSTAL PREACHER: SOUL RESHAPING...LIFE FORMATION...CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT...SKILL ACQUISITION

How does God use gifts, talents, callings, and training to mesh with His sovereign preparation and foundations to form a person of God, who can do the works of God? Think of *a preacher* in the broadest terms as someone who can communicate the incredible news of Jesus’ liberating life and presence with credibility and consistency and you will understand the potential audience. Since doing flows from being we will emphasize the deep foundations necessary for an authentically powerful ministry life. Key principles will be drawn from biblical models including Joseph (Old Testament) and Paul (New Testament).

CAMP MANAGEMENT 101

This class entails a brief summary with four key aspects in developing and managing a successful Camp Ministry and Property. You will hear a fresh inspirational testimony from the heart of a State Bishop of God's vision and our mission for this ministry. Learn how to organize a fully accountable Camp Board with oversight of ministry, facilities and property. We will end with a Q&A time and give helpful ideas that can jumpstart your Summer Camp program to a self supporting status. (This class is a must for State Bishops, Board Members, Caretakers and Directors who still have a vision of an ongoing revival for youth and children).

IMPLEMENTING OPERATION OMEGA (Core Class)

Trevor & Aileen Reid, Directors, International Youth Ministries

Working through the vision of Operation Omega, we will discuss how to reach, raise and release today's youth for Christian service.

BUILDING EFFECTIVE MINISTRY TEAMS (Core Class)

You may be feeling you cannot do this job alone. Guess what? You are right!! God never intended for you to do ministry alone. Let's discuss the importance of having a team in ministry. We will discuss team building and recruitment. We will discuss the importance of training with your team. Step into what God has planned for you.

RE-ENVISIONING CAMPING MINISTRIES

Camping is a strategic ministry. It attracts the largest people group (youth and children) and the audience most receptive to the Gospel (youth and children). It encourages evangelism and discipleship in the context of relationships. But we've stopped there! This workshop will challenge us to think beyond the traditional Bible camp and envision camping ministries that provide unique and relevant strategies for evangelism, discipleship, and leadership development of children and youth.

SLAYING THE GOLIATHS: YOUTH MINISTRY FOR A SMALL CHURCH

Smaller churches often face formidable foes that seem stronger and bigger than they are. Nevertheless, every Goliath has a weakness. By using creativity, aligning with God's Word, prayer and a little sweat, these obstacles can come crashing to their knees. Join us as we confront common giants with four smooth stones that energize people, release enthusiasm, and unlock passion in the smaller church...passion that brings down those Goliaths that threaten every ministry.

SUSTAINING SPIRIT FILLED EXPERIENCES IN OUR EVENTS

We all want God to move in our events and see lives changed; but how can we make sure that those two things actually happen in our events. Do we just mark a date on the calendar, book a speaker and expect it to happen? Or, do we strategize and plan and then expect God to move? In this class you will receive valuable information on how to plan, carry out, and follow up on any event or camp to ensure that we sustain Spirit filled experiences. To help you better understand this material we will plan an actual event during this session so you can take the "know how" home with you!

DEVELOPING AN INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP PROCESS

Do your students constantly ride the spiritual roller coaster—up one week, down the next? Is there a way to move them to a deeper, more committed relationship with God? Interestingly, Jesus' disciples rode a similar roller coaster, but somehow He managed to move them to a deeper relationship over time. If you're struggling to find a way to develop your students into committed followers of Christ, come see how Jesus approached the same problem, *and solved it*.

ENGAGING THE HEART OF POSTMODERNS

The postmodern puzzle is the key to understanding this generation in order to effectively minister the gospel to them. Our understanding of how best to minister to people is aided immeasurably

when we stop to examine and consider the context and circumstances in which people live their lives. This “new world” is one of diversity and inclusion, and a world that in many ways looks very different from the one that some of us know. It’s a tremendously exciting world, but a world with serious problems. But whether our personal tendency is to embrace or denounce this new world, we **must** understand it if we are to be effective in touching the lives of those who are living in it. This workshop will discuss strategies for reaching postmoderns with the Good News and discipling them to become like Jesus.

CABIN LEADER OF THE YEAR AWARD GOES TO...

...YOU! The crowd screams and applaud as you make your way to accept your award! And then...you wake up! Have you got what it takes to be in the running for such an award? Well, this is one dream that is achievable with the right tools at hand! Start by building relationships. The cabin leader/counselor has the potential to impact the life of a camper spiritually, emotionally, socially and mentally. Campers remember their interaction with their counselor more than any other camp experience or staff member. The award will take back seat to what you will experience as a camp counselor!

YOUR FIRST FIVE YEARS OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Statistics say that the average term of a youth pastor is 18 months. What does that tell us about youth ministry? We will learn how to make the new leader’s first five year of ministry successful.

PLANNING AND LEADING LOCAL MISSION PROJECTS (Core Class)

Missions = glamorous travel to exotic places while sharing “good news.” Not exactly. “Sharing the good news” is accurate but missions is a condition of missional living more than a short excursion to a far away mission field. Realistically, missions does occur in short stints locally and globally but is not limited to these reprieves. Scripture mandates “missional living.” Our response as believers is to live apostolically or as “one who is sent.” This “how to” workshop will help leaders place followers into missional opportunities to transform community. Together, we will unpack the ideals of “missional living” through a historical view (theory) and a practical application (praxis) of being the hands and feet of Christ locally, regionally, and globally.

CULTIVATING LEADERS IN YOUTH AND CAMPING MINISTRY (Core Class)

Ministry to students in the 21st Century demands a different philosophy than the traditional “Youth Group” or “Youth Camp” mentality. A Student Ministry is completely different in that the mindset is geared towards strategic programming, intentional and planned outcomes. The goal of student ministry is to motivate students in discovering their ability to serve their peers.

This session will equip youth workers and give insights about the philosophy, values and techniques of student ministry. Leaders will also gain understanding of some of the policies that make student ministries effective.

RESPONDING TO TEENS IN CRISIS (Core Class)

What do you do when a teen in your ministry is dealing with depression, teen pregnancy, or addiction? How do you answer tough questions? Learn from my triumphs and mistakes as we discuss the do’s and don’ts of ministering to hurting kids.

MOVING FROM VOLUNTEER TO VOCATIONAL MINISTRY

This workshop will provide an awareness of the lack of available and qualified children and youth ministers for vocational ministry positions; challenge youth and children’s ministers to move up in ministry (to move from the mindset of volunteers to the mindset of leadership); and provide understanding of how you can move into vocational leadership as God develops ministry within you.

MAKING MINISTRY SPACES, SAFE PLACES (Core Class)

This workshop will provide the learner with the tools to establish safety plans and procedures to make their ministry a safe place for students.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE? THE DISTINCTIVES OF A HOLINESS/PENTECOSTAL YOUTH MINISTRY

We carry the term and distinction of "Pentecostal" but do we know what that means anymore? What makes us Pentecostal? The phenomena that once defined us seems to be quickly fleeting from our gatherings. How many of your students have experienced the Baptism of the Holy Spirit? How many have seen the miraculous or experienced it for themselves? Come join us in discussing how we can identify and reclaim the spiritual distinctives and experiences of our movement. We must successfully pass the baton of Pentecost to the next generation.

UNDERSTANDING THE CASUAL SEX REVOLUTION (Core Class)

This class focuses on the social factors that have contributed to the *new* casual sex revolution and their effect on teens. Youth workers will learn tools for developing a positive response to this critical issue.

UNDERSTANDING THEIR WORLD, HEARING THE CRIES (Core Class)

See the world of today's youth as it really is - a world of changing family structures, powerful media influences, and postmodern moral relativism.

