

Family Based Youth Ministry

Youth ministry expert Jeanne Mayo grew her youth group from 30 kids to over 1000. Here Mayo shares practical principles for growing ministry through a friendship culture.

Youth ministry can be tough. Life in Student Ministry can help.

Packed full of practical 'how to' advice on everything from starting a youth group, to recruiting volunteers, setting boundaries, and reducing stress, this book is a unique collection of many voices and viewpoints all speaking to encourage, challenge, and equip youth leaders to succeed.

Kids desperately need healthy, committed adults who can help them thrive in their faith and become active participants in the life of the church. This requires the efforts of the whole faith community. Chap Clark, one of the leading voices in youth ministry today, brings together twenty-four experts from a variety of denominations and traditions to offer a comprehensive introduction to adoptive youth ministry, a theologically driven, academically grounded, and practical youth ministry model. The book shows readers how to integrate emerging generations into

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the family of faith, helping young adults become active participants in God's redemptive community.

Join the conversation as experts propose, defend, and explore Four Views of Youth Ministry and the Church. In a dialog that often gets downright feisty, four youth ministry academicians delineate their distinct philosophical and ecclesiological views regarding how youth ministry relates to the church at large--and leave a taste of what's profound and what's not in these four typologies: Inclusive congregational (Malan Nel). What happens when a church thoroughly integrates its adolescents, making them full partners in every aspect of congregational life? Preparatory (Wesley Black). Why and how should a church consider its teenagers as disciples-in-training and its youth ministry a school of preparation for future participation in church life? Missional (Chap Clark). What does a church look like, whose youth ministry does not necessarily nurture "church kids" but is essentially evangelistic? Whose youths and youth workers are considered missionaries? Strategic (Mark Senter). How feasible is it for a youth ministry to become a new church on its own--the youth pastor becoming the pastor, and the new church planted

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with the blessing of the mother church? In *Four Views of Your Ministry and the Church*, solid academic writing and an inviting tone and design create a compelling text for both in-the-field, practicing youth workers and undergraduates and graduate students.

Teenagers Matter

Renewing the Vision

Secrets for Growing Your Ministry

Family-Based Youth Ministry

Integrating Emerging Generations into the Family of Faith

Practical. Tested. Backed by Research.

A Personal and Practical Guide to Starting Right

Four Views of Youth Ministry and the Church

Since forever altering the course of the youth ministry world with his best-selling, groundbreaking book, *Purpose-Driven® Youth Ministry*, Doug Fields' mind—but especially his heart—has been focused on the many unique needs of new youth workers. Doug translated his passion, insight, and vision for his beloved “rookies” into what you’re now reading, *Your First Two Years in Youth Ministry*—hands-down the most comprehensive companion to not only surviving, but also thriving, during the most crucial phase of youth ministry. Employing his renowned wisdom

and humor—as if you and Doug were chatting over a long, relaxing meal—the author disarmingly relates stories and principles from his own successes and failures over 20-plus years in youth ministry. In the end, he offers treasure troves of practical advice, all in the hope that new youth workers can travel a smoother path and achieve real longevity in a church culture that all too often chews them and spits them out. Doug covers all-important issues such as:· Dealing with discouragement· Establishing a solid spiritual foundation· Building effective relationships with students· Resolving conflict· Ministering to parents and families· Trailblazing change· Working with volunteers· Defining a realistic job description· And many others! In addition, a chorus of insightful sidebar voices joins your conversation with Doug, among them ministry veterans Jim Burns, Steve Gerali, Mike Yaconelli, Helen Musick, Chap Clark, Marv Penner, Rick Warren, Jana L. Sundene, Bo Boshers, Duffy Robbins, Tony Campolo, and Richard Ross, all who’ve composed extensive, topical essays for each of the dozen chapters. Your First Two Years of Youth Ministry is a must-have tool for new youth workers, volunteers, seminary professors and students, senior pastors, elders, church boards—even veteran youth workers who’ve been ministering in unstructured environments and are now asking, “What did I miss? What can I still learn?” The first two years of youth ministry are never easy. But never fear. Doug fervently assures us: “Hang on.

Hope's coming!"

Experts develop a biblical theology for family ministry to help churches reach all types of families today, from traditional nuclear homes to single-parent, blended, and gay-partner families, and beyond.

There are many philosophies and strategies that drive today's youth ministry. To most people, they are variations on a single goal: to make faithful disciples of young people. However, digging deeper into various programs, books, and concepts reveals substantive differences among approaches. Bestselling author Chap Clark is one of the leading voices in youth ministry today. In this multiview work, he brings together a diverse group of leaders to present major views on youth ministry.

Chapters are written in essay/response fashion by Fernando Arzola, Greg Stier, Ron Hunter, Brian Cosby, and Chap Clark. As the contributors present their views and respond to each of the other views, they discuss their task and calling, giving readers the resources they need to develop their own approach to youth ministry. Offering a model of critical thinking and respectful dialogue, this volume provides a balanced, irenic approach to a topic with which every church wrestles.

Every church is called to some form of family ministry, but this calling requires far more than adding another program to an already-packed schedule. The most effective family ministries refocus every church process to engage parents in

discipling their children and to draw family members together instead of pulling them apart. In this second edition, Jones expands the definition of family ministry, and broadens the book's focus to address urban perspectives and family ministry in diverse settings.

Five Views

Why Parents Don't Really Care about Youth Groups and What Youth Workers Should Do about It

Gospel-Centered Youth Ministry

Life in Student Ministry

When God Shows Up ()

The Youth Worker's Handbook to Family Ministry

Sticky Faith

From Last-Minute Scrambling to Long-Term Solutions

Teens and emerging adults don't feel at home in the church because they are not fully included in the church body. How can congregations nurture young adults, welcome them as siblings into God's household, and empower them to become fully embedded contributors within and to their faith community? Integrating the latest research on adolescent faith and young adult ministry for the local church, this book presents a new way of thinking about youth ministry. Chap Clark offers today's youth leaders highly practical principles based on his extensive experience, showing how they can implement a sustainable youth ministry

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program in their local church. He presents the adoptive youth ministry model as a way to help congregations see youth ministry as a bridge to inclusion, participation, and contribution in the body of Christ. Clark's comprehensive plan for designing and implementing youth ministry shows churches how to intentionally welcome young people and create an environment where they belong.

Are you a children's ministry leader on the edge of burnout? Sustainable Children's Ministry shows you how to recruit volunteers, partner with parents, navigate politics, and care for your own soul instead of frantically scrambling to do it all yourself. This practical resource will help you build a ministry foundation that will still be standing long after you are gone. Do you find yourself wondering how to get new volunteers onboard for your ministry? Youth leaders Mark DeVries and Nate Stratman have heard all the reasons why leaders fail to get and keep volunteers. That's why they have developed this 30-day on-ramp to creating a volunteer team, with all of the needed tools included and a money-back guarantee. This volume provides all who minister to young people with an effective blueprint for building a truly meaningful ministry

Reimagining the Role of Church and Family in the Faith Journey of Teenagers

Gospelize Your Youth Ministry

Trained in the Fear of God

Making Student Ministry a Priority in the Church

Contemplative Youth Ministry

Thriving Youth Groups

Sustainable Youth Ministry

A Theology for Family Ministries

Alongside is a much-needed resource for both parents and those in youth ministry. In this transformative book, Drew Hill unpacks the challenges teenagers face and how youth leaders and parents can share the gospel with them at this crucial age. Full of practical insight and biblical knowledge, *Alongside* is an invitation to love teenagers well with the hope of the gospel. Our teenage friends are full of questions and longings. They're trying to figure out who they are, where they belong, and if they matter during this pivotal time of development—all while facing new realities of loneliness and isolation, despite their social media followers. Teenagers want to be chased, and *Alongside* brings Scripture to life and helps parents and those in youth ministry practically connect the life of Jesus to the lives of their adolescent children and friends. Through Scripture and captivating personal stories from years of experience working in youth ministry, Hill pulls back the curtain and invites readers to step into the unfiltered world of teenagers. How do we start meaningful conversations with our teenage friends? How do we build trust across the dining room table? What would it look like to prayerfully cultivate a group of leaders or

parents with a shared goal of seeing Christ transform the lives of teenagers in our communities? What does Jesus have to say about caring for our middle or high school friends, and how can he use us in his plan to rescue them? *Alongside* offers practical application and biblical truths to highlight the complexities of relational youth ministry, address the needs real teenagers encounter in their daily lives, and engage their hearts rather than just their behavior. Hill explores what it looks like to not only share the love of Jesus with our teenage friends but to share our very lives with them as well.

This bold book is an urgent call to parents—and the church—to return to biblical discipleship in and through the home.

A Youth group is not only about your teenager. Youth ministry, done well, includes and impacts the entire family. *Practical Wisdom for Parents* is not a book about how to make your teens sit down and have a family devotional. Instead, this book will help you and your teen thrive and flourish during these important years. David and Walter give numerous practical suggestions on how you can work alongside and support those leading your youth ministry, including a variety of ways you can support and be involved in your teen's youth ministry

experience. Many of their ideas are “behind the scenes” that don’t require you to teach a class or lead a devotional. However, your partnership role with your youth ministry leadership will be clearly articulated throughout.

Why Teenagers Matter in the Life of the Church

A Practical Plan for Defusing Conflict and Gaining Allies

Adoptive Church

A 30-Day Change Project for Youth Ministry

A Small Book About a Big Idea

A Radical Model for Youth and Family Ministry

Owning Faith

Reclaiming Youth Ministry from an Entertainment Culture

Practicing the Presence of Jesus

With decades of ministry experience, Michelle Anthony and Megan Marshman capture the guiding essentials of life-changing family ministry. These seven essentials for children and student leaders emphasize: 1. Empowering families to take spiritual leadership in the home 2. Forming lifetime faith that transcends childhood beliefs 3. Teaching Scripture as the ultimate authority of truth 4. Understanding the role of the Holy Spirit to teach and transform 5. Engaging every generation in the gospel of God’s redemptive story 6. Making God central in every biblical narrative and daily living 7. Participating in community with like-minded ministry leaders 7 Family Ministry Essentials will energize and equip you with the practical steps,

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inspirational stories, and biblical foundation you need as you lead those in your ministry.

"The strong and spicy heat of the gospel is the secret to effective and exciting ministry just look at the early church! Gospel advancement was at the heart of the early believers? discipleship, and the book of Acts gives us a vibrant picture of God's plan to use us to build His kingdom. In Gospelize Your Youth Ministry, Greg unpacks the model found in the book of Acts, unveiling the seven key ingredients present within the early Church. Today, youth leaders can blend these same basic ingredients together in their own unique, customized recipe to create a gospelized youth ministry that results in dynamic kingdom growth. For youth leaders and adults with a heart for youth ministry who are looking to spice up their ministry and (re)discover the joy, excitement and transformation they've been longing to see and that Jesus promised! The gospel is the perfect kick! "

Mark DeVries offers an approach that brings teens into one-to-one relationship with older Christians; involves the whole church family from singles to seniors; and frees pastors and leaders from worrying about attendance, budget and competition with other programs.

One of the big problems in youth ministry is the constant turnover of youth ministers. Mark DeVries addresses the problem with a systematic answer: churches need to take corporate responsibility for establishing a vision and structure for effective ministry, rather than leaving it all up to the youth minister. Especially helpful for senior pastors and church leaders.

A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry

Your First Two Years in Youth Ministry

Family Ministry Field Guide

Partnering with Parents in Youth Ministry

Building a Youth Ministry that Builds Disciples

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A Spicy New Philosophy of Youth Ministry (That's 2,000 Years Old)

Building Your Volunteer Team

Passing on the Faith

"Scripture calls parents to train their children in the faith and to nurture their children's souls. Yet few parents actively engage in their children's spiritual development. How can churches best equip families to engage in their divine calling to disciple their children? Family ministry expert Dr. Timothy Paul Jones guides church leaders to develop a ministry system that equips parents to be the primary faith-trainers in their children's lives, moving beyond mere programming into a deeper spiritual life at home, within the church, and beyond. This resource is for leaders in the trenches--those who: see parents disengaging from their children's spiritual development; see too many students leave for college and drop out of church; have heard of 'family ministry,' and just want to know more; or are frustrated with programmed ministries that fail to produce results. Based on solid research, this field guide unpacks how real-life churches can narrow the gap between present reality and the biblical ideal of faith-nurturing families" -- Publisher description.

Dr. Randy Stinson and Dr. Timothy Paul Jones have been the primary architects of the theological foundations for what has become known as “family-equipping ministry”—a recognition that the generations need one another and that parents have an inherent responsibility for the discipleship of their children.

Most parents would give anything to anchor their children with a vibrant faith that “sticks” and continues to mature long-term. Yet despite this deep desire, research indicates that approximately 40-50% of high school seniors drift from their faith after graduation. In response to this problem, the Fuller Youth Institute (FYI) has launched the College Transition Project, a national longitudinal study

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following 400 high school seniors during their first three years in college. This provocative and needed research is geared to spark a movement that empowers parents, churches, leaders, and adults of all ages to develop robust and long-term faith in kids.

The Kids in Your Youth Group Are Not Isolated Beings... Ministry to Youth Means Ministry to the Families! Churches are hiring Youth and Family Pastors, finally, in an overdue ministry focus. A critical component of a family-based or family-friendly youth ministry is a conscious strategy for ministry to the parents of adolescents. Expectations and opportunities in the area of parent and family ministry have increased dramatically. Youth Worker's Guide to Parent Ministry develops a model of parent ministry based on the belief that for a youth worker to be truly effective, it is important to lay careful relational groundwork to ensure that the right to be heard has been earned. Dr. Marv Penner, respected adolescent researcher, youth pastor, and family counselor, presents nine evolving levels of parent ministry--each one strengthening the credibility of the youth worker and opening doors to deeper and more meaningful parent support. Each of the nine levels is supported with a number of practical ideas and strategies for implementation. Youth Worker's Guide to Parent Ministry provides both a theoretical framework and the tools for implementation in local-church or para-church settings. Marv constructs his effective plan in a "Paradigm Pyramid"--rationale and practical hands-on programming ideas at each of the nine evolving levels of parent ministry: Acknowledgement Affirmation Information Encouragement Connecting Equipping Involvement Educating Co-nurturing Bible-based, time-tested, innovative, experiential, adoptable! Youth Worker's Guide to Parent Ministry is a foundational text in this vital area of youth ministry! Featured are sessions, sidebars, Web links, application points, contests and games, sample newsletter ideas, funky cartoons, and many worksheets (all downloadable and adaptable)! Practical Conversations on Thriving in Youth Ministry

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A Biblical Theology of Youth Ministry: Teenagers in the Life of the Church

7 Family Ministry Essentials

3 Views

Family Ministry in Theological, Historical, and Practical Perspective

Raising and Saving your Teen is not just your Youth Minister's job

The Practical Guide to Today's Family-Based Youth Ministry

Alongside

Youth ministry is an essential part of most evangelical churches. And yet, there is a surprising lack of resources written specifically for youth workers focused on viewing all aspects of youth ministry through a gospel-focused lens. Featuring contributions from a host of experienced youth workers from a wide variety of churches, this how-to manual offers guidance related to every facet of youth ministry, from planning short-term mission trips to working with parents. Theologically rooted yet eminently practical, this handbook will equip youth leaders to effectively shepherd the young people under their care—training them to live faithfully in their homes, churches, and schools.

Family-Based Youth Ministry InterVarsity Press

The most powerful force in a young person's life is his or her family. The importance of this is pointed out in the writing of the Torah in Deuteronomy 6:4-9, where believers are mandated to pass their family legacies to the next generations. The newest trend in youth ministry today

is a very healthy move toward family-based ministry, a mind-set that helps the church act as a support system, while placing discipleship and training back into the hands of family. Partnering with Parents in Youth Ministry will help youth workers understand their unique role in helping families succeed and will give an overview strategy of family-based youth ministry, as well as practical ideas on implementing this awesome ministry in your church.

From the Introduction This book is about passing on the faith from generation to generation, throughout the milestones of a person's life. Faith is created and nurtured by the Holy Spirit through the Gospels. The vision underlying the RADICAL model was developed in light of the theological principle that faith is formed by the Holy Spirit through personal, trusted relationships, often, but not always, in our own homes. A youth and family ministry for the 21st century connects all the generations in the total ministry of the congregation and, through the cross of Christ, recognizes the work of the Holy Spirit shaping faith in all the circles of relationships. This revised edition expands on the authors' original model in an all-new chapter on the circle of creation. This edition has also been updated throughout in light of new ideas and research that have emerged during the past decade.

**Inclusive Congregational, Preparatory, Missional, Strategic
Why Most Youth Ministry Doesn't Last and What Your Church Can Do**

about It

A History of Protestant Youth Ministry in America

A Practical Guide

The End of Youth Ministry? (Theology for the Life of the World)

Adoptive Youth Ministry (Youth, Family, and Culture)

Youth Worker's Guide to Parent Ministry

Purpose Driven Youth Ministry

If you long to reach kids and see their lives changed by God, this comprehensive guide shows you how. Purpose Driven® Youth Ministry will do for youth ministry what Rick Warren's Gold Medallion award-winning, The Purpose Driven® Church is doing for pastoral ministry. It's an indispensable guide to creating and maintaining youth ministry for the long run. It will help you create a solid spiritual team that builds the foundations of the Christian faith into the hearts and lives of young people. Forged around the fundamental purposes of evangelism, discipleship, fellowship, ministry, and worship, Purpose Driven® Youth Ministry uses the experiences of Saddleback Church to illustrate what a healthy Youth ministry can be. Nine transferable principles help you - Connect with the power of God for passionate, committed leadership - Define the purpose of your ministry and communicate it effectively - Identify your potential audience - Create programs that reach your audience and fulfill God's purposes - Implement processes that move

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students to maturity - Enhance your ministry with clearly defined values - Team up with parents to involve the whole family - Find volunteers and develop them into participating leaders - Persevere through tough times and thrive in an ever-changing environment. Balancing both theory and practice, Purpose Driven® Youth Ministry can be applied to any church setting, regardless of size, denomination, facilities, resources, and existing leadership. Purpose-Driven Youth Ministry will help you develop a ministry that equips students rather than a ministry that coordinates events. Doug Fields says, "My goal for this book is to coach you through a plan to build a healthy youth ministry that isn't dependent on one great youth leader and won't be destroyed when the youth worker leaves the church. It's not a book on how to grow your youth ministry with six easy steps; it's about identifying, establishing, and building health into your church's youth ministry.

"Contemplative Youth Ministry is refreshing rain for dry youth workers and barren youth ministries. More than the same old youth ministry tips and tricks, it gives principles and practices to soak in God's grace, love, and power. I wish I had read it 15 years ago." - Kara Powell, Ph.D., executive director, Center for Youth Ministry and Family Ministry, Fuller Theological Seminary "Mark invites readers to be encountered by the presence of Jesus who is always near. This book

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is transparent about the challenges that churches and families face as they desire to be effective in youth ministry. The book is filled with the honest stories of different kinds of youth ministries representing the breadth of Christianity in the United States. I heartily endorse Contemplative Youth Ministry as a rich encounter with the souls of youth and adults whose lives have been transformed by our very present God.” – Bill Kees, director of youth ministries, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) “Mark Yaconelli not only reminds us of some of the long-forgotten pathways of faith, he shares with us how it actually looks when men and women who love God practice it with young people. I especially appreciate Mark’s optimism in his perspective of today’s kids, for his insights are grounded in God’s view of them.” – Chap Clark, Ph.D., associate professor of youth, family, and culture, Fuller Theological Seminary “Mark Yaconelli was experimenting with contemplative youth ministry practices before contemplative youth ministry practices became cool. This book has about it the unique air of authenticity. He shares with us in these pages his own journey as a youth worker who actually believes that God’s still small voice speaks louder than the roaring windstorm of our busy youth ministry calendars. It’s a book about creating for our students places of silence and opening up spaces for God to speak.” – Duffy Robbins, professor of youth ministry, Eastern University; author of Enjoy the

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Silence and This Way to Youth Ministry “Mark Yaconelli has emerged as one of youth ministry’s most provocative ‘voices in the wilderness,’ calling us back to our theological taproots: The contemplative practices that bind our lives to the life of Christ. If Mark’s research has taught us anything, it’s that these practices do not cause youth ministry to take flight into a spiritual never-never land; rather they anchor young people—and their churches—in the fertile soil of Christian tradition, in the nitty-gritty of daily life, and in the explosive transformation that awaits us when we wait upon God.” – Kenda Creasy Dean, parent, pastor, and professor of youth, Princeton Theological Seminary; author of *Practicing Passion: Youth and the Quest for a Passionate Church*

Gives youth pastors, youth leaders, and parents a guide on how to lead a gospel-rich youth ministry that makes the means of grace Word, prayer, sacraments, service, and community central to the ministry. More than ever, young disciples want relationships with their parents and other adults; Owing Faith helps older disciples understand how to honor and nurture relationships that last a lifetime. Today’s adolescents face an uphill climb as they seek to own their faith. And while it’s easy to think that what they really need is an expert, Owing Faith lets you in on God’s big secret: what they need more than anything else is you. Owing Faith is an accessible guide into the

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adventure-filled spiritual journey of adolescents. If you would like to learn how to be a wise and compassionate companion who can make an eternal difference in the lives of youth, Owning Faith will show you how.

*A Strategy for Culture Change in Children's and Student Ministries
A Handbook*

Family Driven Faith: Doing What It Takes to Raise Sons and Daughters Who Walk with God

*Strategies and Practical Ideas for Reaching Your Students' Families
Loving Teenagers with the Gospel*

Youth Ministry in the 21st Century (Youth, Family, and Culture)

Family-based youth ministry : reaching the been-there, done-that generation

While most youth pastors are being regularly evaluated (or even scrutinized) for what they're doing right now in the youth group, the reality is that the most important thing they are doing won't actually be evident until much later. That's because the biggest challenge for any youth ministry is helping teens embrace a whole-hearted devotion to God that lasts far beyond their years in the youth room. Unfortunately, much of youth ministry seems to be designed on the model of setting teenagers up for a "date" with God—a delightful evening that involves music, laughter, food, and light conversation.

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But what scripture calls us to is not a “one-night stand” with God, but a lifelong love of God that endures. Youth ministry educator and veteran, Duffy Robbins, offers youth workers a blueprint for building that kind of faith in teenagers. In this concise book, ideal for busy youth workers, they’ll be equipped to build a youth ministry that instills that lasting faith in its students.

Teens today are a product of families much different from those 30 years ago. Home life is shaped by dual wage-earning parents, skyrocketing educational costs, blended families, and other concerns. For youth workers who know the importance of factoring their teens' families into the youth ministry equation, here at last is a comprehensive guidebook. Chap Clark offers highly useful information for involving teens in the church family and for custom-designing a family ministry program. This hands-on book offers to-the-point explanations of every aspect of family ministry. Its wide margins encourage note-taking. It provides a wealth of specific tools and ideas. And it's replete with quotes and statistics that can be used in parent seminars, retreats, and other events described in the book.

For more than two centuries, youth ministries have either strengthened teenagers after a special encounter with God or tried to retain them until such a moment when God shows up. Here veteran youth ministry expert Mark Senter provides the first substantial history of the phenomenon of American Protestant youth ministry. More than a history, this book highlights the evolution of adolescence and adolescent spirituality, outlines

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three distinct cycles in the history of youth ministry, describes the major shapers of youth ministry over the last century, and helps readers understand trends and changes in youth ministry and their connections to broader church life.

Got a volunteer crisis? Need help choosing curriculum? Wondering how to balance ministry, health and life? This handy handbook offers advice and how-to's on all this and more from seasoned ministry leaders, as well as relatable church life anecdotes. Chapters include: Chapter 1: Family & Intergenerational Ministry Chapter 2: Parents & Guardians Chapter 3: Children's Ministry Chapter 4: Preteen Ministry Chapter 5: Youth Ministry Chapter 6: Intergenerational Worship & Serving Chapter 7: Spiritual Milestones Chapter 8: Disability Ministry Chapter 9: Curriculum & Ministry Design Chapter 10: Volunteers Chapter 11: Marriage & Divorce Ministry Chapter 12: Crisis & Counseling Chapter 13: Navigating Human Resources and Organizational Charts in Ministry

Youth in Family Ministry

Giving Up Gimmicks

Perspectives on Family Ministry

Everyday Ideas to Build Lasting Faith in Your Kids

Sustainable Children's Ministry

Children and Family Ministry Handbook

How the Church Can Equip Parents to Make Disciples

9 Essential Foundations for Healthy Growth

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You're looking for a youth pastor. Again. What goes wrong? Why do youth ministries crumble? And what is the cost to students, parents, volunteers and church staff? Is a sustainable youth ministry possible, even after a youth pastor leaves? Youth ministry expert Mark DeVries knows the answer is yes, because he helps build sustainable youth ministries through his coaching service called Youth Ministry Architects. So take heart; No matter what state the youth ministry at your church is in-in need of a leader and volunteers, full of battles and stress, large or small in number-it can be built to survive and to last for the long haul. Based on his own experience and on his many conversations and interviews with churches in crisis, DeVries pinpoints problems that cause division and burnout and dispels strongly held myths. He then provides the practical tools and structures pastors and church leaders need to lay a strong foundation for your ministry so that it isn't built on a person or the latest, greatest student ministry trend. His accessible guidance helps senior pastors and search committees create a realistic job description for a youth pastor provides tips for making wise hiring decisions equips youth pastors to build a strong volunteer team offers creative solutions to help youth pastors set and keep boundaries gives a road map for navigating church politics and more Building a sustainable youth ministry is not easy, and it's not quick. But with commitment to the process, hard

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work and DeVries's guidance, you can put together a healthy youth ministry—one that fits your church and lasts for the long haul. Youth ministry can last. Here's how.

It is a well-established fact a lot of young people are leaving the church after high school. What is even worse is that some of the very youth ministry practices that have been used to help young people are, in fact, harming them. That is a sobering reality, but in response, we shouldn't throw up our hands in despair; rather, we should determine to do a better job in ministering to young people. What does the Bible teach us about passing faith on to the next generation? What insight can research studies share with us about developing lifelong faith in our kids? *Youth In Family Ministry: A Handbook* seeks to answer these questions by looking to the pages of Scripture and summarizing the latest research to provide a model of youth ministry that will help to build lasting faith in young people.

What is youth ministry actually for? And does it have a future? Andrew Root, a leading scholar in youth ministry and practical theology, went on a one-year journey to answer these questions. In this book, Root weaves together an innovative first-person fictional narrative to diagnose the challenges facing the church today and to offer a new vision for youth ministry in the 21st century. Informed by interviews that Root conducted with parents, this

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book explores how parents' perspectives of what constitutes a good life are affecting youth ministry. In today's culture, youth ministry can't compete with sports, test prep, and the myriad other activities in which young people participate. Through a unique parable-style story, Root offers a new way to think about the purpose of youth ministry: not happiness, but joy. Joy is a sense of experiencing the good. For youth ministry to be about joy, it must move beyond the youth group model and rework the assumptions of how identity and happiness are imagined by parents in American society.

Michael McGarry explores the foundation of youth ministry in the Old and New Testaments and brings that together with Church history in a compelling way. McGarry presents a thorough biblical framework to think about youth ministry as the church's expression of partnership with the family for co-evangelizing and co-discipling the next generation.

Creating an Environment Where Emerging Generations Belong

Practical Wisdom for Youth Group Parents

Why Most Youth Ministry Doesn't Last and What Your Church Can Do About It