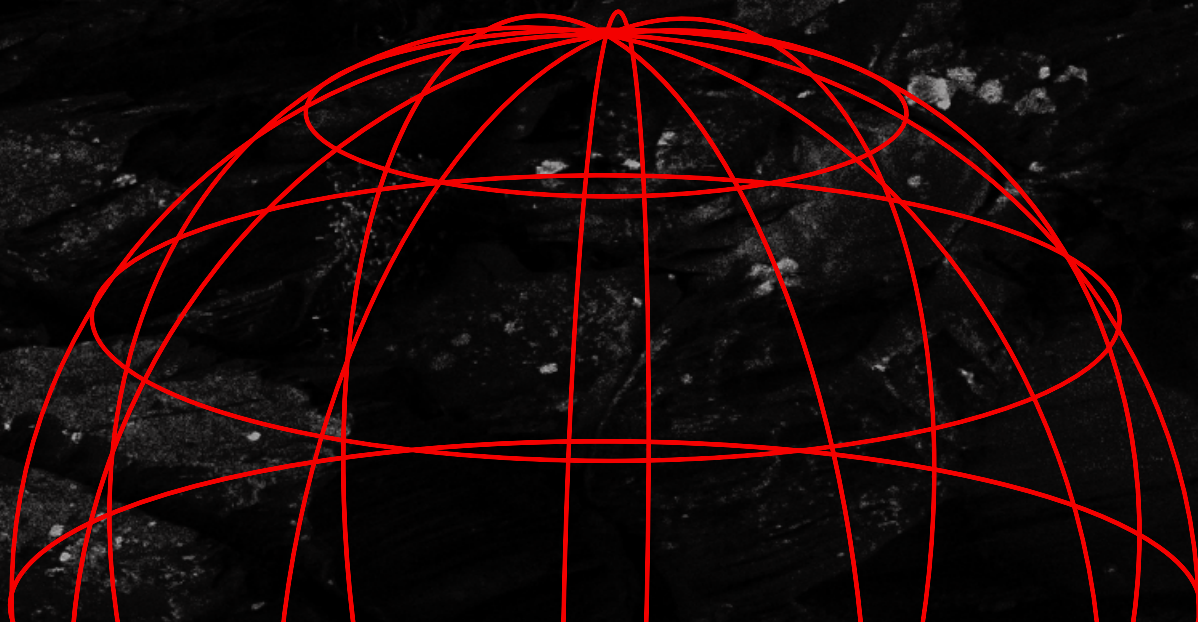


**TEAM  
CHURCH**

# **YOUTH TRAINING CAMP**





# WELCOME

Welcome to Team Church Training Camp!  
We are so glad that you're here.

# SCHEDULE

10:00AM - Session 1  
11:00AM - Session 2  
12:00PM - Lunch  
12:45PM - Session 3  
1:30PM - Session 4



# THE FUTURE CHURCH DEPENDS ON US

## Why Youth Ministry Is a Defining Work

Youth ministry is not a side department of the Church. It is a **generational** responsibility with **eternal** implications.

Studies show that roughly **66%** of students walk away from their faith within a few years of graduating high school.

**34%** of teenagers in America say they attend church weekly.

A recent study shows that only **4%** of American teenagers hold a Biblical worldview, believing in the authority of the Word of God.

These statistics may seem discouraging or overwhelming, but across the Church, this doesn't have to be our standard. We are seeing students show up hungry for **truth, authenticity, and purpose.**

What we disciple today determines who is **leading** tomorrow.

What we tolerate in youth ministry today, the Church will **become** tomorrow.

What we disciple deeply today, the Church will **inherit** tomorrow.

About **57% of youth pastors have considered quitting ministry in the last year due to stress** or feeling that what they do is not valuable.

It's youth pastors and youth leaders creating environments for young people to grow and develop in their faith that will turn the tide on these statistics and bring about revival in the Church.

Youth ministry is not preparation for **'real' ministry.** It is real ministry that prepares the future of the Church.

*"The church is always one generation away from extinction."*

–Pastor Marcus Mecum

**Reflection:** What kind of Church do you want students to help lead in 10–20 years?

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Every generation faces unique challenges, and with those challenges, unique opportunities. God has entrusted this generation to this Church for this moment.

**Students today are:**

- Spiritually **hungry**
- Searching for **identity**
- Hungry for **truth** and **purpose**

Youth ministry is not about keeping students busy. It is about forming **disciples** who can stand in a shaking world.

A healthy student ministry is not a ministry **independent** from the adult church, but fully aligned in the **culture, vision, and heartbeat** of the church.

This work thrives best when lead pastors and youth pastors carry shared **vision** and shared **ownership**.

The pastor of the youth ministry is not the youth pastor, but the **lead pastor**.

Youth pastors and youth leaders are **stewards** of the ministry.

It is the role of the youth pastor to **build a bridge** from the students to the lead pastor.

**Prayer Prompt:** Ask God to renew your faith for what He can do through students. Write one word God is stirring in you:

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# TEAM TALK

## *What Healthy Partnership Really Looks Like*

Healthy partnership is not about **control**.  
It is about **trust**.

Alignment does not mean everyone does the same thing.  
It means everyone is pulling in the same **direction**.

## **Where Breakdowns Commonly Occur**

Misalignment often shows up in:

- **Unspoken** expectations
- **Inconsistent** communication
- **Different** measurements of success

Unspoken expectations eventually become **resentment**.

Misalignment is rarely malicious. It's usually **unspoken**.

## **Building Trust & Communication**

Trust is built when leaders are:

1. **Clear**
2. **Consistent**
3. **Honest**

Healthy rhythms that build trust:

Regular **check-in** meetings

Clear **feedback** loops

Shared **wins** moments

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# MOVING FROM EVENTS TO IMPACT

## Moving Beyond Event Driven Ministry

Events are not bad — but they are not the \_\_\_\_\_.

If ministry is built only on events:

- Momentum becomes \_\_\_\_\_ .

- Discipleship becomes \_\_\_\_\_ .

Sustainable ministries prioritize \_\_\_\_\_ and utilize \_\_\_\_\_ as tools.

Systems and rules exist to serve people, not replace relationships.

**Reflection:** Where have we relied too heavily on events?

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**Reflection:** How can we utilize events as a tool not a crutch?

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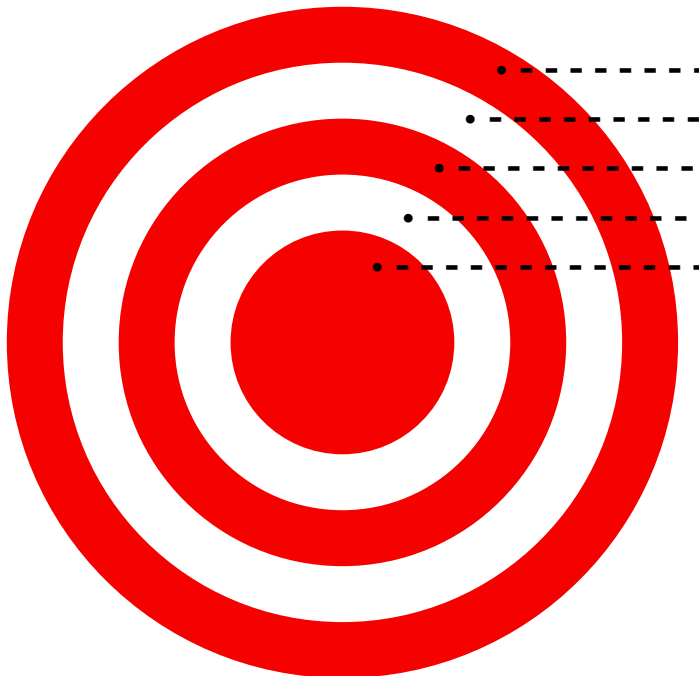
## Evaluating What You Are Building

Ask yourself honestly:

- Are we building \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_?
- Are we forming \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_?
- Healthy ministries make \_\_\_\_\_ decisions, not emotional ones.

Intentional decisions with \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ promote long-term success.

Every event and program on the calendar should serve and promote the movement from one level of involvement to the next.



Community

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Crowd

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Congregation

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Committed

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Core

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**Exercise:** One ministry element we need to reevaluate:

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# COURAGE FOR THE LONG GAME

Youth ministry fruit is often \_\_\_\_\_, not immediate.

Faithfulness matters more than \_\_\_\_\_.

“Let us not grow weary in doing good...” (Galatians 6:9)

**Reflection:** Where have we relied too heavily on events?

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## Sustainability & Longevity

Burnout happens when vision outpaces \_\_\_\_\_.

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Healthy leaders:

- Pace themselves with \_\_\_\_\_.
- Share leadership through \_\_\_\_\_.
- Build systems that \_\_\_\_\_ people.

Longevity is a \_\_\_\_\_. Nobody wins the long game alone.

Who are the people that you are running alongside of, reaching forward towards, and reaching back to help?

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One boundary or system we need to strengthen:

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What are ways personally we have experience fatigue in ministry:

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What are we going to implement to counter that:

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**You Are Not Alone**

God never intended youth pastors and leaders to carry this work \_\_\_\_\_ .

The Church stands with you. Your leadership stands with you. God stands \_\_\_\_\_ you.

Write one encouragement you need to receive today:

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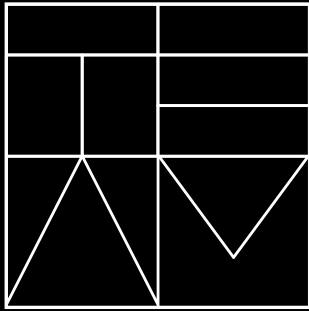
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