

Philosophy of Children & Youth Ministry

Vision:

To build an inclusive space where all students feel welcome to explore their faith.

Goals Include:

1. Helping children and youth put down firm roots **(Mark 4:8-9)**
2. Establishing a solid foundation in Christ **(Matt 7:24-27)**.

Accomplished through: Evangelism, Fellowship and Discipleship. **(Matthew 22:37-40 & Matthew 28:19)**

Much of this vision statement is inspired by four texts from the bible.

1. Rooted in Jesus- Mark 4:8-9: Parable of the Sower
2. Solid Foundation in Christ- Matthew 7:24-27- Solid Foundation

Application:

3. Matthew 22:37-40-Greatest Commandments
 - A. *Evangelism*-Teach kids, God loves them and in return they love.- “Love the Lord Your God...”
 - B. *Fellowship*- Teach the kids, to love others. “Love your neighbour as yourself”
4. Matthew 28:19-Great Commission
 - C. *Discipleship*
 - So Full of instructions from Jesus!
 - Teach New Disciples to obey Jesus’ commands, what we just read in Matthew 22.
 - Our job, is to teach kids, to love God, and to love others. And that’s it.
 - Doing Life with Kids

Youth Ministry is about discipling students. Walking with them and teaching them along the way.

The role of our Youth Minister and Volunteers

1. Teachers-

Jesus was a teacher, thousands flocked to learn from him.

Our job is to teach kids **who** Christ is, **what** he did for them, and **how** he can be a part of their life.

2. Spiritual Friend

Ultimately, it’s about being there for our students. When life crumbles we are there to listen, to advise, and to pray!

What does the bible say, what is God putting on your heart. Spiritual friends are there to help you when you need it

3. Mentor- Jesus had special relationships with his disciples. He taught them on a greater level than others, he explained Parables to them, he gave them the authority to do what he could do. He raised up the next generation of those who would follow him.

Paul+ Annanias is an excellent mentoring model found in the scriptures- **Acts 9:13-18:**

Paul’s conversion experience left him needing encouragement Ananias did just that. BUT, what’s cool is

that once Paul was more confident in his faith, he turned around and mentored **Timothy 4:12**. And THIS is what youth ministry is all about.

Mentor students in their relationship with God

A) So that they may first be an example to ALL BELIEVERS through their faith, their love, and their purity,

B) But then also, so that once they are solid in their faith they can turn around and mentor others.

To sum it all up our three ministry goals for our children and youth programming are as follows:

Goal #1-Teach kids about Jesus, his love for them, and how they can love him.

Goal #2-Invest in their lives, being intentional, as role model, friend and teacher

Goal #3-Mentor students in their walk with God, so that they can turn around and invest in others.