



breakout sessions

offered both sessions

Dave Adams | *Laying the foundation for effective youth ministry: a youth ministry strategy*

Start from the beginning and build a vision for youth ministry that is biblically based and Great Commission focused. You will be equipped with a timeless strategy for youth ministry in the local church.

Jeff Borton | *Mobilizing your students to be on mission... everywhere!*

Twenty first century teenagers are cause oriented. They are driven to respond to global needs and meet the real needs of people around them. Hear how you can develop a student movement to carry the Gospel to hurting people while meeting real needs.

Chad Brand | *Helping your students navigate the landscape of American spirituality*

Secular American culture is rampant with spiritual pursuits that are anything but biblical. In this pluralistic climate that teenagers are living in, how can you lead them effectively to understand what is false? Help your teenagers see through the maze of false spirituality and be equipped to give answer for the hope that is within them.

Daniel Broyles | *From ideas to execution: aligning your strategy with your resources*

Take your vision to new heights by aligning your resources with your ministry strategy. Don't miss the mark by spending energy on efforts that don't propel the vision of local church youth ministry while depleting resources from the most critical.

Mark Devries | *Sustainable youth ministry*

What would it take to build a youth ministry that withstands the revolving door of youth ministers? Pinpoint the problems that cause division and burnout then learn practical tools and structures needed to lay a strong foundation for youth and family ministry—one that isn't built solely on a person.

Dan DeWitt | *Reaching the skeptics in your student ministry*

How do we know that God exists? Is the Bible really true? If God is good, then why did my parents get divorced? Teenagers are filled with questions. Then there are teenagers who don't believe Christianity is true. They question the existence of God, the deity of Christ, the resurrection and validity of the Bible. This session will equip you with answers and strategies for reaching the skeptics in your youth ministry.

Kelly Knouse | *Intentional youth ministry...how programs accomplish the mission of your student ministry*

Youth ministry has seen many changes in the 21st century. One thing that hasn't changed is the need for effective programs. Youth ministry is so much more than activities and events. These programs are necessary, but must be purposeful. As a youth minister, you must intentionally design programs that accomplish the mission of the youth ministry. Purposeful programs are powerful programs. Streamline your youth ministry while maximizing your effectiveness.

Walt Mueller | *Download: teaching teens to filter their media choices*

Whether kids are 8 or 18, popular music serves as a soundtrack and guide to their journey from childhood into adulthood. This seminar will focus on the world of popular music and the powerful role it plays in students' lives while providing informative and practical principles that can be applied to all popular media. You will be challenged and equipped to think and respond in a Christian way to today's music and media as you're trained with practical tools you can use to teach the kids to do the same.

Matt Lawson | *Building an effective youth ministry leadership team*

Youth ministers are called to live out Ephesians 4:12 every day. Equipping the body to serve requires an active, intentional strategy that must recruit, train and place believers in positions to serve the mission of the church. Gain critical principles and strategies for developing a labor force that will effectively disciple teenagers and equip them for the mission.

Alvin Reid | *Leading your students to reach their friends with the Gospel*

Keep the main thing, the main thing. The Gospel changes everything and you can equip your teenagers to see God change their peers from the inside out. Learn how to effectively equip and encourage your students to share the Gospel with their friends and see God turn your youth ministry upside down.

Phil Rice | *Navigating youth ministry landmines and living to tell about it*

Youth ministry is the greatest position in the local church...hands down! It's also one of the most tenuous positions. Why? Youth ministers face challenges to serve students and their families as well as lead their own families. Leadership for the youth minister does not come without its landmines. But how do you avoid or survive those landmines?

Randy Smith | *International student ministry...in your community*

The world is young. Young people remain the most receptive to the message of the Gospel. How are you equipping teenagers to reach the world right in their community and in their schools? This session will help you see the harvest around you and give you a strategy for sending your students into the mission field both domestically and internationally.

Randy Stinson | *What parents need from local church youth ministry*

Youth ministry's mission is to see teenagers mature spiritually in their walk with Christ. Youth ministers use a variety of resources to accomplish that mission. But youth ministers must not overlook the greatest resource in the discipleship process - parents. Find out what parents really need from youth ministers that will propel your ministry of discipleship with teenagers.

Rick Young | *Building a small group curriculum plan*

We all teach small group discipleship programs in Sunday School. But what about the teenagers from 6th grade through 12th grade, what should they know about God, the Bible and the faith when they graduate? How do we lay out a strategy to train our teenagers to be lifelong disciples? What are the resources that will help us get there? There's a practical process to help you answer those questions and more.

session one only

Gary Almon | *Kids hurt, Christ heals: ministering to teens in crisis*

The American teenager is in crisis. The changing influences of our culture produce positive and negative impact on every young person. How do we view these influences through the biblical standards and principles? The youth minister must be equipped to recognize root problems and develop a meaningful strategy for helping the hurting teenager.

Jim Burns | *How to be a hero to parents in your church*

What are the basics of good parenting and how can youth leaders help? To counter the usual trial-and-error methods of parenting, find time-tested advice and strategies for today's families. This session will help youth pastors and parents understand what it means to parent teenagers successfully.

session two only

Gary Almon | *A theology of youth ministry*

Youth ministry is many things: challenging, enthusiastic, cross-cultural, exciting, discipling, evangelizing. Before it can be anything, it must be theological. Learn how youth ministry is a vivid expression of biblical mandates and how your youth ministry must connect with those commands in practical ways.

Wayne Rice | *How to enjoy parenting teenagers*

Someone else may know the Bible better or they may be a better mentor, but no one knows your teenager better than you. With a multiplicity of influences in your teenager's spiritual life, no one is in a better position to lead your teenager to a living and active faith in Christ than you. This session will challenge parents of teenagers to enjoy their role as primary spiritual caregiver.