



STUDENT MINISTRY TRAINING

KEVIN GREER | 5 SESSIONS

**NEXT
LEVEL**  **ONLINE**

OZARK CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Session 1: Expectations for Volunteer Youth Workers, Pt. 1

The most important thing you can do is invest in adult volunteers!

-Volunteers are incredibly valuable to every youth ministry.

Two commitments

- 1) Your commitment to Jesus. Jesus is the center of your work.

- Students need to see that Jesus is real in your life, more than just on Sundays.

- Do you want to grow up in Jesus or grow old in Jesus?

How can we do this?

- A) Be in the Word.
- B) Pray.
- C) Seek positive accountability and have them speak wisdom in your life.
- D) Love the church.
- E) Be teachable.

- 2) Your commitment to your family.

- Give it priority. By doing this, we honor God.

How can we do this?

- A) Part of your job is to be an ally to parents; parents will always have a bigger impact on the students than the youth worker.
- B) Consider the impact your ministry has on families.
- C) Money.

Session 2: Expectations for Volunteer Youth Workers, Pt. 2

Two more commitments:

3) Your commitment to students.

-Youth ministry is relational

-You are a cross cultural missionary.

How can we do this?

A) Embrace the awkwardness.

B) Show love to your students (five love languages).

4) Your commitment to youth ministry.

- People in youth ministry are world changers; never underestimate your job.

How can we do this?

A) Don't volunteer unless you're sold out.

B) Be dependable.

C) Be a team player.

D) Be supportive of the direction of the ministry.

E) Build up your youth ministry.

-Everyone has expectations for the youth minister; maybe we need to change our expectations.

-Volunteers are youth ministers, too.

-Love Jesus, love kids, work hard.

Session 3: Student Ministry on Purpose

What is your purpose?

-When youth ministry is run by the calendar, this is a problem; we need to purposefully find focus for our ministry.

5 purposes:

- 1) Evangelism
- 2) Discipleship
- 3) Fellowship
- 4) Ministry
- 5) Worship

Primary Youth Programs:

- Events (outreach)
- Youth group (fellowship)
- Worship service (worship)
- Small group (life application)
- Camps and retreats (catalysts for growth)
- Sunday school/bible study (education)
- Service projects (ministry)
- Mission trips (missions mindset)
- Disciple groups (accountability and mentoring)
 - This is a general outcome.

When is there a problem in programming?

- When a purpose is unclear.
- Confused purpose.
- Wrong measuring sticks.
- Loses its purpose.

Youth Ministry Funnel

(copy diagram)

Session 4: Theology Matters in Student Ministry

Why is it critical that theology matters in student ministry?

- 1) Everything is theological.
- 2) We need to know what we believe and why we believe it.
 - When we engage in theology, we are studying and thinking about God.
 - Without the Gospel in youth ministry, you're nothing but a community center.

Theology you need to teach your students:

- 1) The Word of God
 - the bible is inspired by God
 - it is authoritative (if this is not authority, then their authority is their feelings)
- 2) Who is God?
 - He is their father
 - He is the creator
 - He is all knowing and all powerful
- 3) Who is Jesus?
 - He is the only son of God
 - He is the only way to God
 - He was fully man
- 4) Who is mankind?
 - They are created in the image of God
 - They are sinners in need of a Savior
- 5) Understand theology on sin
- 6) Theology on sexuality
 - This will be a make or break on Christianity for some students
 - Balanced scriptural theology, "convicted civility"

Other theologies that matter:

- 1) Theology on the church.
- 2) Theology on the afterlife.
- 3) Theology on Hell.

-One trend that's positive is youth ministers are going back to a biblical view of things and they are diving into scripture more.

-The theology of a youth worker is ultimately more important than their strategy.

-All we do relates to what we actually believe.

Session 5: One Final Piece of Advice for Student Ministry

-The largest statistic on youth ministry in a study done concluded with this advice to youth workers: **persevere**.

-Sometimes it's important just to stay.

Two key relationships to longevity in ministry:

- 1) The first is spouse
- 2) The second is boss

How can you maintain longevity? You have to stay healthy spiritually and physically.

The five main challenges in longevity have to do with time:

- 1) Too busy for personal devotional time
- 2) Job demands more
- 3) Emotional strain
- 4) Regret not spending time with youth who've stopped coming
- 5) Too little time for themselves

Questions to think about:

- 1) How are you doing?
- 2) Are you spending time with God?
- 3) Are you praying?
- 4) Are you loving your family with time and energy ?
- 5) Are you loving your spouse?
- 6) Are you honoring your ministry?
- 7) Are you a good steward with this ministry?