Philosophy of Local Church Ministry

WORD OF LIFE BIBLE INSTITUTE, NY (YTHC110)

JASON SKEFFINGTON
Philosophy of Local Church Youth Ministry

Purpose:
To introduce the student to a correct philosophy of youth ministry in the local church, and orient the student with the different Word of Life Ministry Programs that equip the local church for the evangelism and discipleship of youth.

Course Goals:
With classes and quizzes, the student will be expected to articulate the biblical principles for each of the elements of an effective youth ministry program in our culture.

Course Procedures and Grading:
Five quizzes will be given. Each quiz will cover the previous week’s material.
# FOR LCM ELECTIVE CLASS – YTHC110

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Classes</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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</table>
| 1     | Thursday 9/29/2016     | Examination of Current Trends  
Foundation of an effective youth ministry   | Jason Skeffington  
John Collins  
Brian Baker  
Dwight Willard | none                  |
| 2     | Thursday 10/6/2016     | Evangelism  
Outreach Events and Programs | Jason Skeffington  
John Collins  
Brian Baker  
Dwight Willard | Quiz #1  
20 points             |
| 3     | Thursday 10/13/2016    | Discipleship  
Focus - Curriculum | Jason Skeffington  
John Collins  
Brian Baker  
Dwight Willard | Quiz #2  
20 points             |
| 4     | Thursday 10/20/2016    | Discipleship  
Focus - Activities | Jason Skeffington  
John Collins  
Brian Baker  
Dwight Willard | Quiz #3  
20 points             |
| 5     | Thursday 10/27/2016    | Leadership  
Development | Jason Skeffington  
John Collins  
Brian Baker  
Dwight Willard | Quiz #4  
20 points             |
| 6     | Wednesday 11/2/2016    | Youth Meeting Practical Exercise  
The Area Missionary  
Your ministry calling | Jason Skeffington  
John Collins  
Brian Baker  
Dwight Willard | Quiz #5  
20 points             
Extra credit – youth meeting exercise
Course Outline: Local Church Youth Ministry Elective (YTHC110)

Week One – Overview

A. Session One
   a. Overview of Youth Ministry Today
   b. Snapshot of the Cultural Landscape
   c. Wrong Ministry Philosophies

B. Session Two
   a. Brief History of WOL and LCM
   b. Principles, Philosophy, Purpose, Program of LCM
   c. Evangelism, Discipleship, Leadership Development

Week Two – Evangelism

[QUIZ ONE]

A. Session One
   a. Principles, Philosophy, Purpose and Program of Evangelism
   b. The need for Evangelism
   c. Training materials

B. Session Two
   a. National Evangelistic Outreach of Word of Life
   b. Class brainstorm – create an event

Week Three – Discipleship Tools

[QUIZ TWO]

A. Session One
   a. Quiet Time
   b. Scripture Memory

B. Session Two
   a. Bible Study
   b. TeacherSource Web App

Week Four – Discipleship Expanded

[QUIZ THREE]

A. Session One
   a. Ministry Service
   b. Engaging your students to serve with Engage
B. Session Two
   a. Student Fusion (Short-term Missions)
   b. Camp Crew
   c. CCI (Cross-Cultural Internship)

Week Five – Leadership Development

[QUIZ FOUR]

A. Session One
   a. Leadership Development - Principles, Philosophy, Purpose and Program
   b. Leadership Training
   c. Leadership Team Roles

B. Session Two
   a. Meeting Format – “How to run youth group”
   b. In Class Work Groups: Plan a Youth Group Meeting

Week Six – Development Training Continued

[QUIZ FIVE]

A. Session One
   a. ROLE PLAY: Execute the meeting you planned last week

B. Session Two
   a. The National Missionary
   b. Your ministry calling
Week 1, Session 1 – Youth Ministry Overview

Characteristics of Youth Ministry Today

Reality of Youth Ministry
- The US is the 5th largest UNREACHED mission field in the world
- "Fewer than one-third of all teenagers are likely to attend a Christian church once they are living independent of their parents"
- More than 66% of evangelical churched youth don’t come back to church after graduation.
- Morality is relative
- What are we doing wrong?

Over 6 Years youth will experience ...
- 4 – 6 different programs
- 2 – 4 different youth pastors or leaders
- Throwing personalities and programs at them

Results
- Youth say… “This doesn’t work!” and they don’t come back
- Moreover, Children aren’t staying for the teen ministry

Snapshot of the Cultural Landscape
- Generations
  - “ME” – Builders, Boomers, Busters, Gen. X
- Cultural Pendulum swinging from “Me” to “We”
- Recommended Videos - Generations:
  - Youth Culture Trends, Part 1 https://vimeo.com/16428972
  - Youth Culture Trends, Part 2 https://vimeo.com/16429052
  - Youth Culture Trends, Part 3 https://vimeo.com/16429113
  - How to be a student of youth culture https://vimeo.com/31427276

Wrong Youth Ministry Philosophies
“Run ‘em Crazy” Philosophy
Activity-Centered Youth Program
• The Characteristics:
  o Mostly Activities-Activities for Activities Sake
  o Lack of Bible Doctrine and Evangelism
  o Keeping the Youth Busy

Criteria for success is business.

• The Results:
  o Spiritually Shallow Youth Group
  o Discontented Young People
  o Fatigued Leaders
  o Parents are either irritated or irresponsible
  o Teens Begin to Expect Bigger and Better Activities Each Time
  o Baby Sitting Service

The “Concert Circuit” Youth Program
Mostly Entertainment

• The Characteristics:
  o Superstars Are Idolized
  o Weak on Separation
  o Weak and Unclear Gospel Message

The criteria for success is size.

• The Results:
  o Young People Get a Distorted View of Christianity – all entertainment.
  o It Can Establish an Improper Value System.
  o Young People Can Embrace an Improper Life-Style - hedonism.

“Chaperoned” Philosophy
Young People Guide Their Own Spiritual Growth

• The Characteristics:
  o Youth Run Meetings
  o Usually Dull and Unexciting
  o Usually Small in Size
  o Use Mostly Topical Studies

The criteria for success is how many attend the church service.

• The Results:
  o Minimal Accomplishment
  o Insufficient Spiritual Training
  o Insufficient Evangelism
  o No Vitality
“Rambling” Philosophy
The Godly “Zap” Method or “The Blind Spiritual Finger”

- The Characteristics:
  - No Group Involvement/Only Lecture
  - No Systematic Bible Study
  - No Organized Weekly Plan
  - No Strategy for Young People’s Spiritual Growth

The criteria for success is having something to say every time.

- The Results:
  - Leaders are Frustrated or Fooled
  - No Purpose
  - No Goal
  - Youth are Unproductive

“Packaged Program” Philosophy
Super-Duper Decorated Box of Youth Goodies A-La Poster

- The Characteristics:
  - Magic Box of youth Materials
  - Topical Study
  - Posters, Banners, Pennants and Pins
  - No Doctrinal Teaching

The criteria for success is how many posters and pins you buy.

- The Results:
  - Frustration Begins When Magic Box Fails
  - Confused Leaders
  - May Contain Objectionable Materials
  - Excitement Over the Wrong Things

“Youth Director Centered Youth Ministry” Philosophy
An Excellent Philosophy if the Youth Director Has the Right Philosophy

- The Characteristics:
  - Youth Ministry Built on the Youth Pastor.
  - Youth Pastor is a Youth Worker, Not a Youth Leader.
  - Youth Pastor Tries to Build a Church with Youth Department.
  - Many Youth Pastors are Threatened By Adults

The criteria for success is having the youth pastor as the center of attention.

- The Results:
  - No Leadership Training
Instability in Leadership
Ministry is Personality Centered
Youth Pastor Will Never Realize His Full Potential

“Musical Chairs” Philosophy
This is a desperate philosophy

- The Characteristics:
  - Leadership Recruited Through Guilt
  - Improper View of Ministry, Job vs. Ministry

The criteria for success is a warm body to wear the youth leader title.

- The Results:
  - Young People Sense They are Being Neglected.
  - They Realize the Lack of Concern.

“Disengaged” Philosophy
Characterized By Constant Turmoil

- The Characteristics:
  - Irresponsible Parents
  - Irresponsible Church Leadership
  - Question: “Who Is Responsible?”
  - No Plans, Goals or Purpose

The criteria for success is having none.

- The Results:
  - The Young People Are Insulted.
  - The Young People Are Guarded.

“Us Four and No More” Philosophy
Deadly Philosophy

- The Characteristics:
  - Pious and Petty Saint Syndrome
  - Isolated not Insulated
  - Boring

The criteria for success is carbon copy Christianity.

- The Results:
  - Sterile Ministry With Very Few Saved
  - Young People Are More Concerned of Self Than Others
  - Low Level of Personal Commitment
  - Young People Have an Improper View of Separation
There is hope!

- It is possible to have an effective and vibrant youth ministry.
- You can do so by having a youth program that is based on Biblical Principles
- WOL equips Local Churches to help them have an effective and successful youth ministry
- WOL equips churches to evangelize and disciple youth
Week 1, Session 2 – LCM Overview

Brief History of Word of Life

- The History of Word of Life:
  - Founded by Jack Wyrtzen
    - NYC, 1940’s – open air and outreach events
    - Adirondacks, The Island, 1953 and beyond....
    - FMI – read “The House the God Built”

- The Four core values of Word of Life:
  - Word of God
  - Evangelism
  - Discipleship
  - Youth

- The Ministry of WOL world-wide today:
  - Camps – Island, Ranch, Pines, Lodge, FL
  - Bible Institute– Multiple campuses world-wide
  - Local Church Ministries – Biblical youth ministry church program for all youth ages
  - International– 69 countries

- The History of Local Church Ministries:
  - Founded by Paul Bubar in 1959
  - First “Clubs” in New England and Florida

Local Church Ministry Foundation (5 components)

Principles
Matthew 28:19,20, Colossians 1:9-11, 2:6,7, 2 Timothy 2:1-2, Hebrews 10:24-25

These are key verses that focus on Evangelism, Discipleship, Leadership, and the local church.

Philosophy
Reaching youth whose culture constantly changes with Biblical truth that never changes through:
Evangelism, Discipleship and Leadership Development

The key facets -

- Evangelism – We provide training, tools and event opportunities for evangelism.
- Discipleship – We provide an operating system to disciple youth, which is based on Biblical Principles.
- Leadership Development – We equip leaders for personal and youth ministry effectiveness

Building a balanced Youth Ministry https://vimeo.com/15900524
Purpose
To equip the local church to evangelize and disciple young people

Program
An organized system that is intentional in equipping the local church for the evangelism and discipleship of youth.

- **Area Missionaries**
  - Function as ministry coaches
  - Provide evangelistic event opportunities and support
- **Tools and Curriculum for the 6 key spiritual disciplines**
  - Quiet Time
  - Bible Study
  - Scripture Memory
  - Ministry Service
  - Faithfulness to the Local Church
  - Accountability

People
People are the point. Disciples aren’t a program or a church building. Disciples are people. We are told to go into all the world and make disciples (Matt. 28:19-20) People are what matter. An effective youth ministry program must be effective at equipping the church to make disciples of young people.
Week 2, Session 1 – Evangelism

Evangelism

Principles
Matthew 28:19, 20, Acts 1:8, Acts 17:16-34 ... [Paul speaking to a culture with no context of the one true God]

The scriptures tell us to go into the world, preach the Gospel, and make disciples. It also tells us to start where we are in our hometown and go outward. It also shows us an example in to reach the culture in which they live.

Notice the sharing of the Gospel has us going out rather than waiting for people to come in to our church or to us.

Notice that the power to evangelize comes from the Holy Spirit.

Philosophy
As disciples of Jesus Christ we are commanded to reach people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ starting in our local area to our local culture and also reach beyond.

Purpose
To equip the local church with tools, training, and opportunities to evangelize young people in their area.

Program
To help the local church evangelize young people we provide:

- Training
- Outreach events
- Follow-up Materials

Training
- “Won by One”: General Evangelism training
- Event-specific Training
  - Manuals
  - Videos

Excerpt from church-sponsored event training

Tips for preparing, executing and follow up on Evangelistic Events
A. Prep
   a. Promote early
   b. Think from the student’s perspective…. What makes it easy to invite friends
   c. Train counselors ahead of time

B. Execution
   a. Have plenty of help on hand
   b. Get a dynamic speaker that does a good job with the invitation
   c. Have someone head up the counseling time
   d. Have plenty of Gospels of John and decisions slips

C. Follow Up
   a. Connect with each student who made a decision that night
   b. Then follow up meeting within a week
   c. Establish a set of meetings over six weeks or so where you begin discipling the new convert
   d. Use adult leaders, parents, older people in the church and older students to help in the discipleship process
   e. Use a curriculum for follow – up. Word of Life offers some.

10 Steps to a horrible event:
https://vimeo.com/16429183

Follow Up Materials
   • First steps for the new believer.
   • Know, Grow, Show
   • Getting to Know God

People
Remember that all of these materials are simply tools to equip the local church to reach young people with the Gospel. The program does not do evangelism and follow-up. People who are obedient to the working of the Holy Spirit do evangelism and follow-up. Disciples are to be disciple-makers,
Week 2, Session 2 - Evangelism

Word of Life’s National Outreach Events

Evangelistic outreach events provide a way to “win a hearing” with unbelievers by providing an exciting and enticing fun time. This is how WOL got started. During the event the fun activities “funnel” to a time of sharing the Gospel and counselling those who come to know Christ.

https://vimeo.com/78322284

We have two kinds of outreach events: National and Church-sponsored. The national events are coordinated and hosted by our area missionaries, and are designed to provide large-scale gathering on an Area or Regional scale. The event program is run by Word of Life. An event of this size often hosts hundreds or even thousands of youth to hear the Gospel. Churches are invited to attend and bring as many unsaved youth as possible to hear the Gospel.

Church-sponsored events are local events that are hosted and promoted by a local church. The local church uses the program and equipment designed by Word of Life to reach youth in their local community. Young people in a youth group are encouraged to invite their friends to the event.

Our Area Missionaries play a vital role in equipping local churches for evangelism. They provide training for leaders, host mega events in the region, and provide equipment and preaching for church-sponsored events.

National events

**Reverb**

REVERB is the best all-night event of the year for your youth group! Kick off the night at a sporting event followed by an interactive AMP rally with music, games, and tons of prizes. During the AMP rally we will give a clear Gospel presentation and an opportunity to respond. Then, celebrate the rest of the night at premium venues doing great activities like: inflatables, sports tournaments, live entertainment, Archery Tag, dodge ball, arcades, bowling, trampoline gyms, go-carts, and many others (varies by event).*

http://reverbnight.com

http://vimeo.com/84782589

**Dodgeball - Midwest**

**February Funtastic – South**

**Sports Marathon – Lynchburg**
National Events of the past
- Operation Nightmare
- Thing-a-ma-jig
- Hub-bub
- Super Sports Spectacular
- Volleyball Marathon
- Basketball Marathon
- Softball Marathon
- Triple-Play
- Olympian Field day

Church-Sponsored Events

STORM
STORM "Sending Teens Out to Reach the Masses"

A STORM meeting is a vehicle for the local church to send students out to reach their friends with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. During this event your students will go out into the community and by impromptu invitation bring back their friends, potentially tripling your group in size, while having tons of fun and games and most importantly giving them a chance to hear and respond to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Resources:
- http://storm.wol.org
- Why you need it https://vimeo.com/100991952
- Making it friendly https://vimeo.com/100987189
- Make it effective https://vimeo.com/104718234

Fascar
Fascar is a fun evangelistic outreach event that is designed for younger children (Grades 1-6). We provide a 40 foot track and the electronic equipment to race matchbox cars. Fascar will only take 2-3 hours to do at your church and your missionary will be there to help assist in the ministry. This event is YOURS! We'll walk through all the details and provide the equipment and the speaker, but our goal is for your church to bring in unsaved children and parents from your community.

Resources:
- http://fascar.wol.org/
- Promo http://vimeo.com/84395961
- What is it? https://vimeo.com/24769922

Slopstacle
Just like it sounds! -- an extreme, messy, obstacle course. This experience is put on for the purpose of spreading the gospel. Along with the slopstacle course we will also have a time of sharing the truth
about Jesus Christ. So we want churches to bring as many unchurched students as possible. Our Ministry Coach in your area will come and help you run the event, provide equipment and supplies, help you with promotion strategies, and present the gospel message.

http://slopstacle.wol.org/
http://vimeo.com/88910987

Camps

Island
Grades 9-12
High School

Enjoy a week (or more) on our private island in the Adirondacks Mountains! Bring your Bible and your sense of adventure and join us for an awesome week!

Ranch
Grades 1-6
Children, Middle School

Take a trip back to the great midwest at the Word of Life Ranch! With age appropriate programming, and a wild and fun program staff, your child is sure to have a great time.

The Wild
Grades 7-8

The wild is a super-charged camp program that is designed for middle-schoolers. Sophisticated enough to be cool, with appropriate content for the age group.

The Pines
All Ages

Fully equipped with all the amenities you would expect from one of the top Christian resort centers on the east coast, there is a private beach and pool, ski boats, jet skis, gourmet meals, great accommodations, activities for the whole family, full-service daycare, and more.

The Lodge
All Ages

Whether you have an RV, tent, or you just want to relax in a rustic cabin, the Family Campground is here for you. With all the amenities of a traditional campground, we also have a family centered program specifically designed to bring you and your family closer together and closer to God.

Florida
Grades 1-12
Children, Middle School, High School

Palm trees, water slide, pool, an intense program, and more. Our Florida Youth Camp is here to bring the fun and excitement of Word of Life to the south.
Snow Camp and Snow Camp Remote
Grades 7-12
Middle School, High School

Escape the dreary winter months and spend a weekend with us! We provide the counselors, activities, speakers, and everything else you need to have a memorable Snow Camp experience.

Intersect
“Connecting Camp to the City”

At Word of Life we love camp, and we want to bring it to your city, that is why we created a brand new event called “Intersect.” It is a one day event that combines a fun and exciting camp environment with a clear and concise presentation of the gospel. We’ll combine our staff alongside volunteers from your church as we work to share the love of Christ to your community.

Open Air
Word of Life is excited to have a ministry whose purpose is to bring the Gospel to people "where they are" in public places, where they shop, work, play, and live: Open Air Evangelism (OAE). This ministry goes in to the inner city, housing projects, neighborhoods, parks, and to public events to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through paint boards, rope tricks, and other visualizations, people in urban America are challenged to come to a saving faith in Jesus Christ.

In-Class Assignment
15 minute brainstorm – Plan, Promote, and Present the idea for an Evangelistic Event

- Come up with an original idea for an event that will attract attendees and win a hearing.
- Use the guide in the notes above to create a plan to prepare, execute, and follow up.
- Determine what age group you intend to reach.
- Discuss a plan to promote the event.
- Discuss resource needs:
  - Staff (and their assignments)
  - Materials (paper, props, building materials, food, etc.)
  - Venues and permits/permissions (rental of a field, assembly permit, etc.)
  - Funds

10-15 Minute team presentation

- Present to the class a summary of your evangelistic event idea
Week 3, Session 1 – Discipleship Tools

Quiet Time

Principles
Psalm 5:2,3, 1 Peter 2:2-3

We should start our day in the Word of God, learning to see the face of God before they see the face of man.

A believer should have a hunger for in the word of God.

Philosophy
Quiet Time builds an intimate relationship and fellowship with God.

Purpose
To develop intimacy with God through prayer and systematic daily reading of the Word with personal application.

Program
We read a few verses every day… and answer questions:

Quiet Time Expanded
- What is the Writer saying?
- How does it apply to my life?

Quiet Time Interactive
- Asks leading questions to help guide personal application

Ways to challenge students to a consistent Quiet Time
In Youth Group
- Through Small Group Time
  - Leader sharing how important their Quiet Time is to them.
  - Leader be faithful in Quiet Time
  - Leader check the students Quiet Time and encourage
  - Leaders offer help and suggestions
  - Leaders come prepared to help students with questions about the meaning of the passage.
  - Leaders give students opportunity to share what they got out of their Quiet Time.
  - Share with them what you as a leader have been getting out of your Quiet Time.
  - Do a day or two of Quiet Time together in your small group
  - Tell the students why you want them to do the same Quiet Time as everyone else.
  - Don’t put a student down because they are struggling with their Quiet Time but always be encouraging.
Help students set attainable goals. Don’t expect way too much but rather bring them along a little at a time.

- **Through Lesson Time**
  - Be sure you teach the introductory lesson on Quiet Time at the start of the year.
  - Always look for ways to show the importance of being in God’s Word every day during your lesson.
  - Refer to the Quiet Time that week if it fits in the lesson some way.

- **Through Sharing Time (5 minutes)**
  - Give students an opportunity to share what they are learning from their Quiet Time.
  - Do a Quiet Time together periodically during sharing time

**Outside of Youth Group**

- Talk to your students often about their Quiet Time when you see them outside of youth group.
- Offer to call students in your SMALL group to remind them.
- Pray for the students in your SMALL group (Colossians 1:9-12)
- Get parents involved in encouraging their student.
- Send encouraging notes as often as possible – email is best.

**Things to Remember**

- Remember that the leader sets the pace!
- Remember that every student is at a different place in their walk with God! Love your kids where they are and seek to move them further in their walk, but be patient with them.
- Remember that your excitement about the Word of God will be contagious.
- Always be aware of the fact that students who are not interested may not be saved. (I John 2:3-6; John 8:42-47 and John 15:8).

**Online Quiet Time**

- [http://quiettimediary.com](http://quiettimediary.com)
- There’s an app for that!
- [https://vimeo.com/31427069](https://vimeo.com/31427069)
- In Small Groups
  - [https://vimeo.com/40087303](https://vimeo.com/40087303)

**Quiet Time connect**

- Your whole family on the same passage.
- All quiet times for all age groups on the same passage.
Scripture Memory

Principles
Psalm 119:9-11, Joshua 1:8

Memorizing God’s Word helps keep us from straying into sin.

Internalizing God’s Word consistently helps us live a life that is successful by God’s standards.

Philosophy
Internalizing Scripture to connect to life’s needs and problems is essential for a growing, obedient believer.

Rhetorical question: How can you improve upon God’s PLAN?

Purpose
The systematic memorization of Scripture will help a believer to sin less, witness more, and encourage others.

What is my purpose? Not to fill the head, but to fill the heart.

Program
- Scripture Memory packs
- Tied to bible study series (integrated learning)
- Take them through memorizing a verse together.

We teach that as a leader of youth... you MUST believe in these disciplines yourself or they are not ever going to be believed by your students!
Week 3, Session 2 – Discipleship Tools

Bible Study

Principles
2 Timothy 2:15, 2 Timothy 3:16, 17, 1 Timothy 4:6, 1 Timothy 4:13

Ref. 2 Tim. 3:1-15 What was Paul’s advice and counsel to young Timothy as to how he would face perilous times and days that promised to get worse and worse among evil men deceiving and being deceived? Sounds like what our students face today!

We must realize the Bible is relevant with our present lives! Many Christians do not believe that it is.

The Word of God is still the answer today. Not to build up knowledge primarily, but for godliness.

A biblically principled youth program will teach sound bible doctrine. It is the task of the youth leader to faithfully teach and model it to their youth and to convince them how important it is.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>It is <strong>Profitable</strong> (2 Timothy 3:16, 17)</th>
<th>Another way to say it is:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctrine - the word means literally to teach</td>
<td>Tell them what is right Doctrine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reproof - conviction or refuting an error</td>
<td>Tell them what is not right Reproof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correction - restore to an upright state</td>
<td>Tell them how to get right Correction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction - instruction which aims at increasing virtue</td>
<td>Tell them how to stay right Instruction</td>
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**Concept:** All Scripture is profitable to man so that he may be equipped for the ministry. Note: doctrine comes first.

It is **work** (2 Timothy 2:15)
- Study - means to labor, work at it
- Approved - pleasing
- Rightly dividing - to cut straight

**Concept:** If Scripture is profitable, then we need to study it so that we know exactly how to live and, thereby, be pleasing to God.

It is **Infectious** (Contagious) (1 Timothy 4:6)
- Minister - servant
- Nourish -to educate
Concept: A servant of God models and educates those under his care with sound bible doctrine.

It requires **devotion** (1 Timothy 4:13)
- Attendance - apply oneself, pay attention
- Reading - the public reading of the Scriptures
- Exhortation - comfort
- Doctrine - teach principles

Concept: Paul emphasizes dedication to the study and teaching of sound doctrine and the foundation of the Scriptures.

It is **Rewarding** (Joshua 1:8)
- Meditate - muse, imagine literally to moan or mutter
- Prosper, success - to advance, succeed to make progress

Concept: True success in the Christian life can only come as one applies God’s Word to their life.

Conclusion: Bible Study is a Biblical principle that must be a part of any Biblical Youth Program.

**Philosophy**
Provide students with a structured and intentional program for study, meditation, and instruction from the Word of God.

**Purpose**
To train youth to accurately handle Scripture, resulting in obedience and a life prepared for service.

**Program**
Season's worth of lessons each year. Over the course of six years a student will cover all the major bible doctrines with lessons that teach practical application. Supplemental topical studies are available as well.

The curriculum consists of teacher resources which includes: Background study, teaching guide, lesson outline, extra resources.

The student materials consist of: Student notes to follow along with the lesson, and small group study.

[http://teachersource.wol.org](http://teachersource.wol.org)
Week 4, Session 1 & 2 – Discipleship Expanded

Ministry Service

Principles

Philosophy
Since God has given every believer gifts, talents and abilities to serve Him for His glory, we need to lead, help and encourage youth to find and use them for this purpose.

Purpose
Encourage and help students gain experience in presenting their gifts, talents and abilities for service in ministry to God for His honor and glory.

Program
The program should
- Provide an opportunity for students to get involved with present and future ministry
- Build the confidence of your students as they gain experience in serving God
- Provide a venue to polish and fine tune the ministry skills of students.
- Prepare and equip students for greater effectiveness

Engage
Engage is a fresh approach to getting young people involved in doing ministry. We believe students are not the “church of tomorrow” but one of the greatest sources of untapped potential in our churches and communities. Young people are the church today. Engage promo https://vimeo.com/90681707

The program happens in 3 stages over the course of a school year. First, students are guided through the process to “discover” their gifts, talents, and abilities. Then they “develop” those gifts through a regional competition. Finally, qualifying students will have the opportunity to “deploy” to our national competition at either of our awesome youth camps in New York or Florida for the chance to win college scholarships, receive more instruction from ministry experts, and even take their skills on a missions trip!

http://engage.wol.org

The Program
- Three aspects Discover, Develop and Deploy
- 6-8 main Categories that may vary by year
- 3 levels
The Distinctives
- Goal is personal growth & church involvement
- Use competition to create drive, excitement, and development
  - Move people along the path of development
  - Use the categories for personal outreach or as a church outreach
  - Scholarships given at National Level

Making it work
- Put it on the Planning Calendar
- Ministry Calendar Management https://vimeo.com/23906644
- Personally ask students
- Promote Engage
- Teach the Lesson from the manual
  - Special invitation for students to attend
  - Help them decide what to participate in
  - Schedule a time to actually do it not just to go through the motion

  - Putting it in Motion
    - Pick adults who will take the lead of a category
    - Take your group out
    - Assign the entries to the adult in charge of that aspect
    - Schedule practices
    - Use entries for church service

Student Fusion
Each Student Fusion team takes students just like you, puts them through a week of intense training, and then launches them out to a foreign country.

Different language. Different food. Different everything!

It's just you and your team, put there with the awesome task of sharing Christ. Sharing Christ with people who probably can't go to the type of church you can. Can't flip past nineteen Christian stations on the radio like you can. These people are lost, and nothing's going to change that until someone like you does something about it.

Student Fusion is your chance to truly impact your world. Contact us for more information or sign up today.

http://missions.wol.org/studentfusion

Promo https://vimeo.com/66727496

Keys to a successful missions trip https://vimeo.com/20557873
Camp Crew
Camp crew is actually a “short-term missions” team at Word of Life. If you’ve served at a camp before, you already know that being part of the summer team is not simply a job, but is a real ministry that leads to radically changed lives…yours and the lives of so many others.

Our Camp Crew program is designed to get you going for God. Get ready to grow and to put your faith into action like never before! Special ministry training, activities and outreach are planned throughout the entire summer. Don’t forget the huge benefit of earning up to $3,000 in Word of Life Bible Institute scholarships by serving during the summer of your junior and senior years.

As part of this new program, Word of Life will provide your room and board. A weekly salary is available for those who choose the option of raising support. We already have a team and the tools in place to help you in the support raising process.
Week 5, Session 1 & 2 – Leadership Development

Leadership Development

Principles
1 Corinthians 12:24-27, 2 Timothy 2:2

Philosophy
As experts in youth ministry, it is our desire to teach what we know in order to help churches build youth group leaders teams of excellence.

Purpose
Help youth leaders:
- Be competent
- Have courage
- Cultivate faithful followers of Jesus

Program
Word of Life Offerings for training

Media
- http://transferlive.com
- Books
- Videos
- Podcasts
- Blogs

Area Missionary
- Provides training for working with youth in general
- Provides training specific to the Word of Life youth ministry programs
- Is a life on life ministry coach for your leadership team
- What they do: https://vimeo.com/20603576

Meetings and conferences
- Group discipleship – missionary to leaders
- Regional conferences for multiple churches
Leadership Team Roles

Note that these are roles not positions even though they have titles. Depending on leadership team size, one person may take on more than one role or may share the responsibilities of a role with more than one leader.

Note that these roles and tasks have been designed through careful examination, and multiple decades of experience in youth ministry.

These roles are designed to cover the various aspects of an effective youth ministry so that no one can say “there’s no one to……” or “no one ever……”.

Note that the program or roles can change as needs and culture change. Ideally it is best to give roles to people where their gifts and talents thrive.

Building a successful team https://vimeo.com/15900663

The best overall ratio for leaders to youth is 1 to 6 or less

Think outside the box for recruitment

- The best overall ratio for leaders to youth is 1 to 6 or less
- Roles
- Small groups
- Activities

Administrative Coordinator

Planning

- Ministry
  - Calendar Planning
  - Leadership Training

- Meetings – using the WOL Program planner
  - Specifics
  - Participants

Communication

- Pastor and Church leadership
  - Calendar
  - Goals
  - Blessings
  - Problems

- Leadership team – an informed team is an effective team

- Area missionary – communicate with him frequently
  - Email / Social Media
  - Phone
  - Visits
Discipleship Coordinator

Organization
- Divide your students into Creative Discipleship groups with a leader in each group
- Give each leader up to 6 Students
- Blend together your spiritual, lukewarm, and carnal students
- Break up your cliques

Oversight
- Leaders
  - Make sure every discipleship group leader understands their responsibility
  - Encourage the discipleship group leaders to help their students reach their potential
  - Check up on the creative discipleship record sheets of each leader at every planning meeting
- Students
  - Keep the creative discipleship sheets up to date
  - Make sure students know your expectations

Evangelism Coordinator

Christian Service
- Read through and understand the Christian Service Manual
- Perhaps every leader could sign up for a specific month
- Plan Group Christian service opportunities
- Share 1-2 Christian service ideas at each monthly Planning meeting

Evangelistic Events
- Planning
- Promotion
- Registration
- Recruiting
- Transportation

Coordination of the follow up ministry
- Familiarize yourself with “Where Do I Go From Here?” and “First Steps”
- Recruit adult and mature students to disciple new converts
- Provide the disciplers with the training and tools necessary to effectively disciple another
- Be prepared to begin the discipleship process with new believers as soon as possible following their decision for Christ

Activities Coordinator

Planning
- Dates and times of activities
- Purpose of activity
Cost of activity
Help needed for the activity

Promotion
- Posters / bulletin boards
- Announcements
- Bulletin insert
- Video
- Phone, email, letters, cards, newsletter, text messages, Social Media

Evaluation
- What worked well?
- What needed improvement?
- How did the students like the activity?
- https://vimeo.com/20570264

Bible Study Coordinator

Plan the Year
- Determine the order of your lessons
- Schedule a detailed teaching plan

Plan the Month
- Select teachers
- Understand the Purpose statement
- Delegate any outside involvement in the lesson
- Use the group dynamics
- Make the application with every Bible Study! https://vimeo.com/40087025

Look at the Bible Study – 40+ lessons
- Student Life Basics
- Engage
- Modules – 6 Groups
- Bible Book Study
- Current Issues
- Pressure Points

Engage Coordinator

Study
- Red and understand the current Engage information
LCM Elective Notes (YTHC110) | Word of Life Bible Institute, NY | Fall Semester – 2016 | Jason Skeffington

- Know all the tracks and elements

Recruit
- Students to participate
- Adults to help train
- Pastor to work with guys who want to preach

Promote
- Use the three lessons in the Bible study
- Consider a seminar night - teach several

Plan
- Schedule practice times
- WOL Night in your church

Register
- Area TI – Feb or Mar
- Regional TI – April or May
- International TI – June or July

Small Group Leaders

Before Your Meeting
- Pray for students
- Arrive 15 minutes before the meeting
- Have record sheets available (update them earlier in the evening if at all possible).

During Your Meeting
- Lead your group in a discussion of the lesson taught
- Give the personal application.
- Try this week – encourage your students to do the Christian Service activity for that week.
- Consider taking your small group on a group Christian service together
- Update the Creative Discipleship record sheets (if you have not done so previously)

After Your Meeting
- Call each student to check on their Quiet Time
- Effective leaders build relationships by visiting their home
- Write notes... emails / Social Media
- Take someone through the follow-up program
The Meeting
Three key segments:

- **Community** (30 mins)
- **Connect** (30 mins)
- **Challenge** (30 mins)

Use the “Funnel Effect”. The community time “funnels” the meeting to the Bible Study.

https://vimeo.com/30671670 The Bible Study is our center or focus point.

Everything in Community time before the Bible Study should focus their hearts on God – so that the Word will penetrate their hearts. That’s why we encourage worship, sharing, and prayer. If you have spiritually mature young people who can lead the worship time, this will help your students to participate and follow. The administrator should learn to take a seat with the students and let other leaders and students share what God has been teaching them through their QT, prayer life, personal Bible study.

It is up to each small group leader to ask questions from the lesson, to draw the students in, to seek participation from every person, so that each student learns to articulate what they are learning about God. Discipleship Groups focus on the application of the lesson and what it will take for each student to grow. Participation is the key.

Community Time (30 mins)
**Ice Breakers – 8 MINUTES**
Why do we start with FUN?

- To start with excitement
- To help every student forget their problems /fears for the next 90 minutes. To come to a SAFE place where they can be loved, nourished up in the faith and accepted. To know that no matter what issues they face “out there” we will create a haven – a harbor – to love these students and to teach them the WORD.
- **To break down walls**
- To have fun!

**Announcements – 5 MINUTES**

- Keep this organized. You only have 5 minutes, so don’t ramble and waste valuable moments. The more time you take here, the less time you will have to teach the WORD. Gather all your items ahead of time.
- Make sure your announcements are
  - **CLEAR** - Don’t confuse everyone by saying something wrong, or by saying too much!
COMPLETE - Some announcements create more questions, especially when they are ambiguous. Be enthusiastic – enthusiasm is contagious. Most of all, keep them brief. Usually three announcements are enough; beyond that you will begin to lose your audience.

CREATIVE – this takes effort, but will result in a greater return. If the cause is worthy of devoting of (1) posters or even an entire bulletin board – it will definitely get their attention! Lights – posters – flyers all draw attention to something BIG. (2) Skits / video commercials will help them remember something worthwhile. (3) Youth newsletters often get home to the parents and can actually be sent home to the parents.

Worship – 7 MINUTES
Music
Music is HUGE in regard to preparing one’s heart for worship. Use a capable person. Students can be effective with coaching and instruction from the leadership team. Often other students will follow their peers more quickly than anyone else. Be sure to explain your philosophy of settling them down before the lesson. Use (a) sound tracks, (b) multi-media, (c) praise bands.

Planning
Music should be carefully planned. Don’t just throw it together. You get what you plan for. Delegate this to someone who will treat it as a ministry. Everything we do teaches.

- Don’t sing the same old songs
- Don’t always use the same method
- Always have a plan

Procedure – again the “funnel effect”
- Start with a fun, upbeat song
- Continue with a transitional song – a little slower
- End with a worshipful song – to prepare for “The Word”
- You end with a song that is so worshipful that it leads to prayer so that the Bible teacher can just come up and begin teaching, if the lesson follows your music.

Share/Prayer Time – 10 MINUTES
Guidelines
- Don’t allow students to laugh at others who share
- Create an atmosphere that is safe to be transparent
- Be Creative
- Prime the pump
- Specific Topic
Things we can praise the Lord for...
- Share a gospel song that means a lot to you
- Share a verse that means a lot to you
- Use this time to ask them to teach YOU what God has been teaching them in their Quiet Time – be sure everyone starts in the same passage in the QT
- Sharing can be tied directly to their QT
- Initially... they may struggle!

Prayer
- Teach them how to use their prayer journal in their QT
  - Walk through every page
  - Don’t assume anything
- A personal quiet time is not complete without time invested in prayer. Perhaps the most effective prayer time is by keeping a systematic list to remember all our petitions. That is why we spread them out over a week. We pray for Family – Christian Friends – Unsaved Friends – Missionaries
- Follow up on prayer requests each week.
  - Ask each student, “Can I check ‘this’ off?”
  - Have a page for each student.
- Teach them to be thankful to God.
  - Prayer is about our relationship with God the Father

Connecting Time (30 mins)
Bible Study – 30 MINUTES

Keep in mind that you are attempting to teach ONE CENTRAL Truth in each lesson. Everything you cover – from the “Listen UP” to the “Application” should point back to that one central teaching or truth that they need for life!

Look it Up! – Bible text used in this lesson
Show them where to find key passages. Your students will not remember every portion of scripture that teaches that one truth, but they may remember one. Take them to the best passage and challenge them to be prepared to share with someone else what you have taught. Look it Up... is the memory verse in the 12 Biblical Teaching lessons and the 12 Biblical Living lessons – a total of 24 verses.

Learn it! – Key definitions
Words matter and definitions matter! The truth is most cults do much better at teaching their students what they believe then we do! Let’s change that.
Liven it Up! This will be a chart – fill-in – etc.

This is the interactive part of the lesson. Leaders should have their own lifeline... so that they can disciple each student and show them how to aggressively study the Word of God. It is our belief that the more a student participates by hearing – seeing - writing and taking a personal interest in each truth taught, the more they will be able to navigate their way through God’s Word.

Truth for Life!

Key statements taken directly from the lesson that summarize what we believe and need to teach others also.

Live it!

Every student of God’s Word needs to apply each truth. The danger is when we don’t think Gods’ Word applies to us. Personal application should move us toward some spiritual decision or direction needed in our lives if we are going to take God seriously. Your students will soon discover that as leaders, we believe it’s time for CHANGE. Students who mean business will have no difficulty showing their true intentions by actively participating in Christian Service.

Challenging Time (30 mins)
Small Groups (Discipleship) – 30 MINUTES

Application
- Make sure your teaching effectively leads your students to make needed changes
- Lead your group in a discussion
- Ask questions
  - What did you think of the lesson?
  - How should I change?
  - How would I teach this to a friend?
- Live it – review the personal application to the lesson
- Try this week – a Christian service that builds upon this truth

Remember: Change is necessary for growth

Personal Growth
- Invite students to share from their Quiet Time
- Leaders - Use the prayer journal to pray for each student weekly
- Talk about the ways they have served Christ this week.
- Update the Creative Discipleship record sheets
The goal is to obtain this information before the evening is over. Don’t use your entire time in small groups to record this.

Personal interest
- Call each student to check on their Quiet Time.
- Effective leaders build relationships by visiting a student’s home
- Communicate through letters, emails, text messages, Social Media
- Take someone through the follow-up material

Helpful Instructions
What to do in small groups [https://vimeo.com/16428865](https://vimeo.com/16428865)
Small group lesson application [https://vimeo.com/40087025](https://vimeo.com/40087025)
How to ask good questions in small groups [https://vimeo.com/25132242](https://vimeo.com/25132242)
Small Group Overview Part 2 [https://vimeo.com/101619077](https://vimeo.com/101619077)
I’m new [https://vimeo.com/98641712](https://vimeo.com/98641712)
Your first month [https://vimeo.com/98652929](https://vimeo.com/98652929)
From Curriculum to life [https://vimeo.com/98646127](https://vimeo.com/98646127)
Small group Prayer, the awesome sauce for your small group [https://vimeo.com/30674503](https://vimeo.com/30674503)
Taking your small group from surviving to thriving [https://vimeo.com/30673824](https://vimeo.com/30673824)
Building a Trust atmosphere in your small group [https://vimeo.com/30672880](https://vimeo.com/30672880)
Run a youth group night

Roles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element</th>
<th>People assigned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Team Led (2-3) – Ice Breaker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Must lead the whole class in fun, exciting Ice Breaker Game</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Team Led (2-6) – Music</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Must lead the whole class in engaging praise and worship singing</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Coordinate songs to follow the funnel effect</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Use band or tracks</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Use visuals for words</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Coordinate with class tech team</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual – Bible Study</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Must provide small group leaders with talking points outline</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Team Led (3)– Small group leaders</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Must lead groups of people in discussion about the Bible Study</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Take prayer requests and lead group in prayer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>Instructor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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