

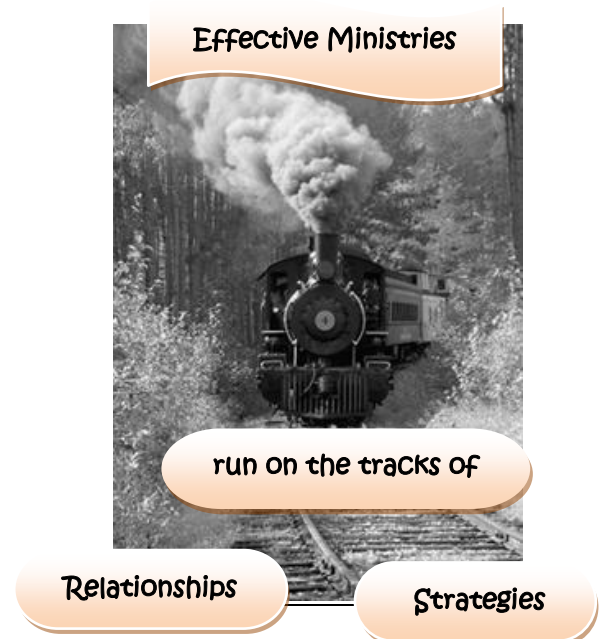
The A B C's of Christian Youth Ministry



A Resource from:



ruralchurchym.org



Personal Study Notes

Suggestions on where to use these A,B,C's

- *For Personal Enrichment / Evaluation*
- *As a Staff or Discipleship Guide.*
- *As a Training manual for Volunteers*
- *As a Small Group Study.*

However the Lord leads you to use the ABC's of Youth Ministries understand that this is just a snapshot of this topic. Its purpose is to spur any youth leader on to pursue a ministry pleasing to the Lord.

Some additional suggestions on how these ABC's could be used:

- ❖ *You may want to look at the larger context of the passages listed plus do some further cross referencing of each verse.*
- ❖ *You may want to evaluate yourself from one to ten on how you would grade yourself in each area, and then determine a course of action for personal development.*
- ❖ *You may want to make a prayer list within each of the letter categories for yourself and for others.*
- ❖ *You may want to add additional topics that you think could be included in the list.*



FIRST THINGS FIRST:

Read through the Youth Leaders **ABC's** on your own then do a read through with another youth leader asking questions with the ministry principle represented by each letter of the alphabet.

The A B C's of Christian Youth Ministries

I Cor. 11:1 "Be imitators of me, just as I
also am of Christ."

"Stay with me and I will show you things you
have never seen and will take you places you
have never been."

This Ministry Motto was one I had while I was a
youth leader for 28 years at one church. –

Tom Horton

(www.ruralchurchym.org)

I Tim. 4:12 - "Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe."

Notes

A Acknowledge God – Pro. 3:5,6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight." Dependency on the Lord is paramount to ministry effectiveness.

Attitude - Phil. 2:5-8 "Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ... He humbled Himself by becoming obedient ..." Attitude cannot be overstated.

Attraction Ministries – How a youth leader gets the attention of young people.

Affirmation -How important is it for teens to feel good about themselves?

Accountability – Who is asking you the tough questions?

B Biblical Bases for Ministry – Here is a short list, ponder on how these scriptures (along with the others listed in this folder) relate to you and to Youth Ministries.

Matt. 28:19,20 – "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Matt. 22:37,39 - "And He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 39 The second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' "

II Tim. 3:16,17 - "All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work."

Rom. 12:1,2 - "Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

Notes

Pro. 4:23 - "Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flow the springs of life."

John 15:16 – "You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you."

I Pet. 4:10 - "As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

John 3:27 - "John answered and said, "A man can receive nothing unless it has been given him from heaven."

Mark 8:34 - "And He summoned the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me".

Mark 10:43,44 - "whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant; 44 and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all."

II Tim: 2:20-22 - "Now in a large house there are not only gold and silver vessels, but also vessels of wood and of earthenware, and some to honor and some to dishonor. Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work. Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart."

Psalms 1:1-3 - "How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers! 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law, he meditates day and night. 3 He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither; and in whatever he does, he prospers."

I Cor. 5:18,19 - "Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. "

I Cor. 4:1,2 - "Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God 2 . In this case, moreover, it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy."

II Cor. 12:15 - "I will most gladly spend and be expended for your souls."

I Cor. 3:5-8 – "What then is Apollos? And what is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, even as the Lord gave opportunity to each one. ⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth. ⁷ So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth. ⁸ Now he who plants and he who waters are one; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor."

II Cor. 5:9 – "Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him."

Phil. 4:8 "Finally brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things."

Notes

Believe in the process – Gods' Word + God's Spirit + the Child of God = Successful Ministries

Build Bridges - into the community, into the public schools.

C Conviction – The reason for your ministry, for what you do.

Character – To be is essential with the doing.

Communicate – Other will follow if they understand why.

Calling – Is your ministry God directed?

D Discipline – Your discipline is critical to the success of the ministry.

Discipleship – Brings depth to our ministry.

Delegate – Keeps you from burning out. Recruit those who can do what you aren't good at.

E Evaluate – Protects you from repeating mistakes.

Evangelism – must be part of your strategy.

F Faith – Heb. 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."
- How does your ministry demonstrate faith?

Factors that contribute – What do you bring to the ministry – focus on what you have not on what you don't have.

Family – Find ways for you family to be involved in the ministry.

G God gives the best – John 10:10 (Jesus said) "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."- no guilt, no regret
Gratitude – Heb. 12:28 "Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe."

H Hard Work – Youth Ministry is hard work.
Help – How can you help your volunteer leaders succeed?

I Involvement Ministries – How do you turn from watch me to help me to I'll help you to I'll watch you?

J Jump Start – Be creative in your ministry and try new things.
Join Others – Networking with other youth leaders has multiple benefits.

K Keep Fresh – Your love for the Lord and for others must deepen as time goes by, never think you know enough or that you have fully arrived spiritually.

L Love Unconditionally – Don't put any conditions on allowing the Lord to love others through your life.
Rom. 5:5 - and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.
John 7:39,39 – “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.’” But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.”

M Message – Acts 4:12 - “And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.” - a messenger has to have a message, what's yours and where does it come from?

Multiplication Ministries – Determine how you can greatly increase your effectiveness.

Memory Builder – What is it that students will remember about you and your ministry?

Main Thing – Keep the main thing the main thing – Determine your properties.

Missions – Go deeper in your ministry in order to go wider.

N Need – Is the bases of much ministry

O Opportunities – In light of changing seasons & world events you might create new opportunities for ministry.

Opposition – understand not everyone will like or value what you are doing.

P Parents – Find ways parents can be involved in the ministry.

Philosophy of Ministry – This is something developed over time and experience but is essential for longevity.

Prayer – Make your ministry an answer to prayer.

Purpose – Have a purpose in all that you do.

R Retreats – Fantastic platform for Evangelism, teaching, training, discipleship, missions and much more.

Role Model – This is a sobering responsibility.
I Cor. 11:1 “Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.”

Relationships – How you make them and maintain them will determine much to your ministry success.

Rules – establish Godly rules early

S Student Leadership - Create ways for Students to develop ministry skills.

Strategy – It's hard to hit a target if you don't know what the target is and how you plan to hit it.

Serving – You are a servant, what does that look like?

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Small Groups – develops community and establishes relationship that could last a lifetime.

- T Testimonies** – Once a student has learned how to share their testimony they have a ministry tool for life.

Teachable Moments – They will come, pray that you don't miss them.

Team Spirit – Ministry is not a solo venture.

Training – Always be a learner and always prepare others for a life of learning and service.

- U Uniqueness** – What is unique to you, your church, location, and resources?

Universal Ministry Arenas - Food – Music - Sports

- V Value the Ministry** – Do you believe what you are doing has eternal value?

Vision – Never stop dreaming big for the Lord. Never forget why you are serving the Lord by serving young people.

- W Warnings** – You **MUST** develop ministry policies.

Never handle money always have someone else do that for you. - **Never** touch except when appropriate (like a one arm hug). **Never** allow bitterness to take root in your heart because of misunderstanding, accusations, lack of respect or low wages. **Never** be alone with a person of the opposite sex.

Worship – How do you express your heart/love for God?

- X eXamine your motives** – be careful not to allow pride, jealousy, envy or lust motive your actions in the ministry. **James 4:3** “You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.”

- Y Youth Leaders Giftedness** – What you are good at is a great platform for any ministry. What others are good at can be a huge asset to your ministry.

- Z The Bottom Line Question** – what type of student are you producing at graduation?

Matt. 13:23 “And the one on whom seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty.

Matt. 7:24-27 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. 26 Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. 27 The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall.”

I Tim. 1:5 “But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.”

Notes

