

Bethany All Access Zoom Call: NextGen

With special guest: Pastor Jon Torres

What are some of the biggest mistakes you made in Youth Ministry?

- Being event-driven vs. vision-driven
- Wearing too many hats

Where do you start when leading Youth Ministry?

- Create a compelling vision
- Recruit a leadership team to help carry out the vision and disciple students

How do you keep leaders encouraged?

- Clarity
- Communication
- Consistency
- Celebration

What should be your top focus in Youth Ministry?

- Pursue clarity from the lead pastor
- Pursue the vision that God is giving you to lead the ministry
- Know who is leading with you
- Know the spiritual climate of the ministry

How do you address hot topics?

- Don't feel pressure to focus on every issue that comes up
- Root your messages in the Bible and God's perspective
- Be known for what you're for rather than for what you're against

How do you effectively reach young adults?

- Young adult service outside of Sunday service
- Provide young adult groups

Q&A

- What are the ways you've interacted with parents?
 - Parent serve team
 - Parent meetings
 - Parent communication (text & email)
 - Send push cards as a secondary communication
 - Background check the parents who want to be involved

- What is your process for NextGen staff
 - Monday - recap + hits and misses from Sunday service
 - Tuesday - meet with all youth staff
 - Thursday - upcoming weekend touchpoint meeting
 - Staff have a specific lane they champion

- What do you do to reach middle/high schoolers, and how do you activate leaders and students to participate in evangelism?
 - Campus Clubs and outreach
 - Empower students to communicate the gospel and lead a Club
 - Equip students to preach the gospel at their schools

- What is the natural transition point for middle/high school, and college students?
 - Youth ministry starts a year early, which helps to acclimate them once they begin middle school, high school, and college

- How does it work when your NextGen pastor and team are bi-vocational?
 - Plan with your team what works best for you
 - When will services occur/how often
 - Keep is as simple as possible