



## **Reaching Students Not Just Keeping Students**

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

### **The Why**

- 1) To help shape their view of God.
- 2) To see students lives redeemed and transformed
- 3) To help get them from Spiritual Milk to a Spiritual Feast

#### View of God

As a ministry we take on the role of helping them shape their view of God. Students are always having their views and thoughts shaped by the things that influence them. If we as a church and ministry neglect the role of helping them shape their view, something else will.

How do we shape their view:

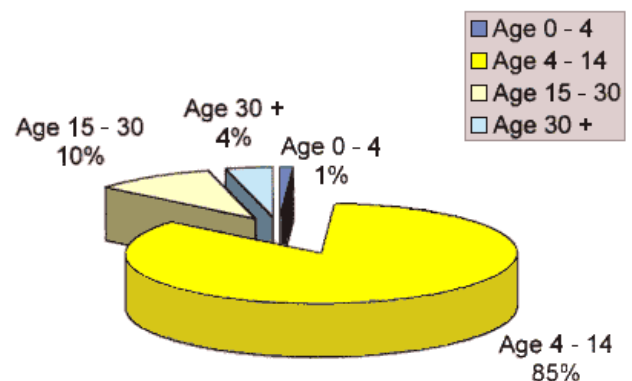
- 1) By showing them how we view God's Word
- 2) By our actions both in the church and outside of the church
- 3) By how we relate to and treat others
- 4) By how we view ourselves as individuals made in the image of Christ

#### Redeemed and Transformed

Everything we do as a youth ministry our focus remains, *"Redemption as the theme and the Redeemer as the main character."*<sup>1</sup> In all aspects of Grove Students, we are a part of this to see students' hearts redeemed and then help them transform their lives as how Christ would have them live.

*Average age that people say they became a follower of Christ according to Barna Research, 2016.*

We want to see them be Redeemed by the only one that can, and then be transformed in their living. Romans 12:2- "...be transformed by the renewing of your mind."



<sup>1</sup> Brent Crowe. 2018 Conclave Youth Conference

The word transformed in that passage is literally translated, *changed after being with*. A true transformation can only come from what Christ can do. We are here to see that change, that transformation after and as they continue to be, live and walk with Christ.

### *Spiritual Milk to a Spiritual Feast*

Every student from the time they enter our youth ministry, must leave as a 12th grader with essential doctrines and teachings in place. Our commitment as a church, Pastor and as Adult Leaders is to help disciple and teach the commands and doctrines of Scripture.

*1 Corinthians 3:2- "I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able to receive it. Indeed even now you are not yet able..."*

*Hebrews 5:12- "For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food."*

### Essential Doctrines and Teachings

- 1) Creation by the Words of God  
(*Genesis 1 &2; John 1:3, Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 11:3*)
- 2) Deity of Christ  
(*Genesis 1:26; John 1:1; John 5:18-24; John 10:30; Colossians 2:9*)
- 3) Salvation by Grace  
(*Romans 11:6; Galatians 2:21; Ephesians 2:8-9; 2 Timothy 1:8-9*)
- 4) Doctrine of Man  
(*Jeremiah 17:9; Mark 7:21-23; Romans 3:10-12; Romans 5:16; 1 Corinthians 2:14; Ephesians 2:1-3*)
- 5) Authority of Scripture  
(*Luke 1:1-4; 2 Timothy 3:16; Hebrews 6:18; 2 Peter 1:20-21*)
- 6) Resurrection of Christ  
(*Luke 24:36-39; John 2:19-21; John 20; 1 Corinthians 15:14*)
- 7) Doctrine of the Trinity  
(*Genesis 1:26; Matthew 3:13-17; John 10:30; John 14:16-17*)
- 8) Doctrine of Baptism  
(*Matthew 3:13-17; Matthew 28:19; Luke 23:42-43; Acts 2:38 \*must know verbs tense\**)
- 9) Church Member Function  
(*1 Corinthians 12:13-31; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18*)
- 10) Personal Quiet Time  
(*Joshua 1:8; Psalm 1:2; Psalm 119:9; Mark 1:35; Luke 5:16; 2 Timothy 2:15*)



## **The How**

- 1) Connecting
- 2) Discipling
- 3) Leading

In order to reach students, not just keep students, we must connect, disciple and lead.

### *Connecting*

- a. Transparent Living
- b. Personal stories of God
- c. Interacting with all students
- d. Sharing with them what we view as important

### *Discipling*

- a. Redemption and Redeemer before anything else
- b. Discipling them and teaching them to disciple others
- c. Serving with them

### *Leading*

- a. Only ask of them, what we are willing to do ourselves
- b. Serving with them
- c. Allow them to see how you worship
- d. By example
  - a. Behavior within the church building
  - b. Behavior outside the church building
- e. Authenticity
  - a. Students want to know if we believe what we are talking about and if it's worth the risk
  - b. They need to see us as adults leading and living the same way in every aspect of our lives.



## **The Evaluation**

We must constantly evaluate how we have done, and where we have gone as a ministry. Scripture calls for much self-examination, to make sure we as believers are walking worthy of the calling of a Christian and a leader. Not only are we supposed to do self-examination, but we must do ministry examination as well. The first two chapters of Revelation give us insight. Each church received a letter containing a list of you have accomplished this and done this well, along with a rebuke of needing to do something better and or different. For us as Poplar Grove Student Ministry, we must evaluate ourselves as well.

### **The Basis of Evaluation**

- Has there been an increase in Students being disciplined?
- Are Adults leading fulfilling the expectation of discipling a student?
- Upon graduation from High School, do students have solid apologetic knowledge of basic Christian teachings?
- Are students both current and new, surrendering their lives to Christ?
- Are students evangelizing to their peers?
- Are Adults connecting with students via transparent living, interacting with students, praying for students specifically?
- Can students report to us how they have grown in their understanding and view of God based on Adult Leader behavior, both in the church and outside of the church?

