

YOUTH ACTIVITY PREPARATION GUIDE

INTRODUCTION:

No part of a youth program can be more productive or disastrous than the activities and retreats of the church youth group. The responsibility of the youth pastor is to organize and coordinate every activity in such a way as to bring glory and honor to the Lord. The following procedures will help accomplish our goals for purposeful teen activities.

I. Planning

- A. Plan a yearly calendar.
- B. Plan each activity one month in advance (four-five months for camps and retreats).
- C. Clear all proposed activities and counselors with the pastor.
- D. Plan for at least one counselor or worker per ten teens.
- E. Always stay one step ahead of workers and ten steps ahead of the teens.
- F. Develop separate Jr. High and Sr. High activities.
- G. Visit sight of activity and analyze for safety and activity feasibility.
- H. Publicize every activity.
 - 1. Every teen should receive a flyer and phone call to promote the event.
 - 2. Teachers should visit class regulars, and helpers are required to make calls and attend activities.
- I. If activity requires equipment, secure equipment ahead of time.
- J. If activity requires a bus, request a bus from the bus director. (Only Class II certified drivers may drive a bus.)
- K. If activity has a fee, collect all funds before departure.
- L. Never sign a contract without reviewing the contract with the pastor.
- M. Never schedule a speaker without the pastor's approval.
- N. Always have an equal number of male and female counselors.
- O. Always beware of First Aid precautions and have a plan for emergencies.
- P. Use "Parental Permission Slips" for all retreats.
- Q. Always arrive home ten minutes before your announced time.

II. Perceptiveness

- A. Be perceptive of individual teen attitudes.
 - 1. Rebellious
 - 2. QuietNOTE: Look for teens with responsive attitudes to develop as leaders.
 - B. Be perceptive of teens who are trying to avoid "the group" - do everything with "groups" and insist that everyone participate.
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LBC Student Ministry • Activity Ideas

- C. Remember the "line of sight" policy. Every teen must be kept within the line of sight. If they are ever out of sight and are injured or abducted, the church is responsible.
- D. Be perceptive of what others think about the youth group's testimony. Work hard to maintain a good testimony from within and without.
- E. Be perceptive of the youth workers.
 - 1. Expect them to be faithful.
 - 2. Encourage them when they are faithful.
 - 3. Watch them, and help them "avoid the appearance of evil."

III. Preaching

- A. Every youth activity should have a purpose. Do not have activities for youth workers to re-live their youth.
- B. The best way to help is by having a "Bible time" at the end of the activity.
- C. Preaching is not screaming.
- D. Preaching is the impartation of a Bible truth that can help a young person develop spiritually.
- E. Plan the theme of the preaching in conjunction with specific goals for the youth group. Always preach salvation, as many visitors attend each activity.

CONCLUSION:

These activities must be planned thoroughly and questions may be directed to the pastor.
