

MINISTERING TO PARENTS

Text: Malachi 4:5-6

In today's culture, Satan's primary target is families. He is trying to ruin them, pull them apart and destroy them. In doing so, he is destroying lives by the generations!! Our primary responsibilities as a youth ministry, is to turn the hearts of the parents to the teens and the hearts of the teens to the parents.

If Mom and Dad don't care about the teen and the teen doesn't care about listening to Mom and Dad, then generations become affected!!! The youth leader must give himself as a minister to families.

Youth leaders are not babysitters or class attendees. They are vital parts of what God wants to do in the families of His church!

1. **A youth leader is an extension of the family.**
 - See yourself as such! View yourself as a helper to parents.
 - It is very difficult to accomplish what the parents are not trying to.
 - Don't contradict, counter or side against the parents EVER!
 2. **A youth leader is an encourager to the family.**
 - Deliberately build relationships with the family not just the teen.
 - Spend time with parents as well as teens.
 - Write notes, pray for and fellowship with parents.
 - Realize that parents get frustrated, lost and confused about their teens.
 3. **A youth leader is a supporter of the family.**
 - Support the parent to the teen.
 - Support the teen to the parent.
 4. **A youth leader is entrusted by the family.**
 - Every activity, soul-winning time and every function is a stewardship.
 - Many youth leaders don't understand the responsibility.
 - Guard your talk, actions, attitudes and behavior as a leader.
 - Be a friend without being a peer.
 5. **A youth leader is needed by the family.**
 - Don't ever begin to feel as though you are not needed.
 - Don't ever begin to think you are doing nothing.
 - Don't ever let Satan tell you, "Who are you to do this?"
 - If God chose you for the position of ministry, then do it in His strength to the best of your ability.
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