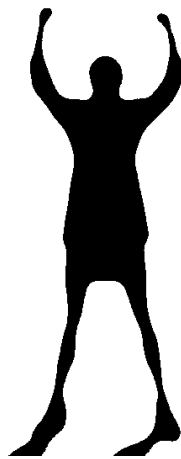




# Principles to Build An Anointed And Vibrant Youth Ministry



Compiled by: Jeffery A. J. Johnson Ministries, Inc



**"Youth Ministries Building Today for Tomorrow!"**

**Dear Reader**

**Dear Reader,**

**Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ. I'm excited for you and your ministry. The information in which you're about to view is not some deep theological exegesis on the know how's of building a ministry. It's a formula for simple kingdom building. I've discovered that the same principals that you would use to build an adult ministry are the same principals that you would use to build a youth ministry.**

**Indeed there is a difference between a youth ministry and a youth department. Youth Ministries meet the daily needs of the youth in which they minister to. Youth departments are mere vehicles that occupy space on the church ministry listings. They gather, have fun, and go home. If you want to build a successful youth ministry, take the aspect of building an adult ministry/church and apply the same principals to building your youth ministry and youth church.**

**What is a youth church? Well, a youth church is a church for youth. Nothing deep to that. It's operated by a youth pastor or a dedicated youth volunteer. Typically youth church will convene twice a week for bible study and Sunday morning worship. The same concepts teaching principals of spiritual ethics to adults are done with youth. The same visitations, phone calls, letters, building a staff, ministries, and effort that goes into building holistic adults should be the exact same model used to build a youth ministry/church.**



Enjoy this basic but yet informative module.

## Kingdom Building 101!

Are you familiar with the phrase, “**Beginning with the end in mind?**”

This question basically establishes a core of preparation for your designed and projected goal. In ministry it’s quite normal and natural to a game plan and a itinerate goal. This is strategic planning and preparation. It’s a known fact that ministries that are well balance in structure produce and maintain stability. Their approach becomes effective and productive for global/Kingdom ministry.

Listed below is a diagram that will assist you in starting, or reconstructing your ministry. While viewing this diagram remember the concept, “**Begin with the end in mind!**”

**New Beginings**

### Three Principles of a Fresh Start!

1. Evangelism





Evangelism is a global tool of outreach, which transcends beyond the four walls that are commonly known as the “**church!**”

Evangelism is an effort that reaches your audience through various exercises such as; outreach, community development, and service projects.

Evangelism should begin with you and your staff brainstorming creative and distinctive ways for community outreach and community development.

Here are a few examples that you can approach as a ministry; community cookouts, clothing giveaways, children hospital - nursing home visitations, campus programs for Middle School - High School - and Post Secondary, neighborhood recreational sports, mentoring programs, and tutorial programs.

These are only a few suggestions for evangelism tools. You and your staff can become creative with a multiplicity of ideas.

## *2. Discipleship*



Discipleship is a tool that will strengthen any ministry. After your evangelism efforts have begun, and new converts are participating in ministry, discipleship is a measure that will grant you the assurance that your labor was not and is not in vain.

A clear and concise discipleship program nurtures new converts in their walk of faith and salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ.



Discipleship training can take place in several different ways. Here are a few suggestions; In depth classes on, “What the Bible teaches,” dealing with faithless moments as a new believer, biblical expositions (getting familiar with the word of God and how it applies to you), and also fellowship opportunities with other believers.

The common analysis of a new converts will always be the possibility of coming short of the glory of God.

The thought of being inadequate lingers in the minds of all believers.

In Luke’s writings in the Acts of the Apostles he records the words of Apostle Paul in chapter twenty and verse twenty eight by saying, “Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he has bought with his own blood.”

Our watchful eye of observance comes from the ministry of discipleship.

### 3. Follow Up



After the evangelism and discipleship tools are in effect, continue your process through a series of follow ups.

The wonderful ministry of assimilation is useful in the area of follow ups.

Now you’re probably wondering what is assimilation? Assimilation is a ministry that ushers new converts, new members, and visitors firstly to Jesus Christ and secondly the ministry of the church. Assimilation is also a way of tracking those who encounter your ministry.



The leader should keep an active and up to date listing of all visitors. Once that's complete that listing should be in a rotational status with the visitors to find out there; personal needs, personal giftedness, and if they are presently worshipping in a church.

This grants assurance for your system of tracking the new visitors and new converts that are in your ministry.

This approach also gives you an opportunity to track the growth and stability process of the new Christian.

Here are a few ways that your ministry can track the growth of your new converts; bi-Weekly correspondence, personal visitations, weekly phone calls of encouragement, planned fellowships, and community outreach.

I believe that these three principles (**evangelism, discipleship, and follow ups**) will guarantee growth and stability in your youth and young adult ministry.

After theses principles are completed I encourage you to begin the process over again, and after that process is complete you should do the same again. It's a repetitious cycle for growth.

I pray that you've found those principles helpful for the beginning stages of your ministry.

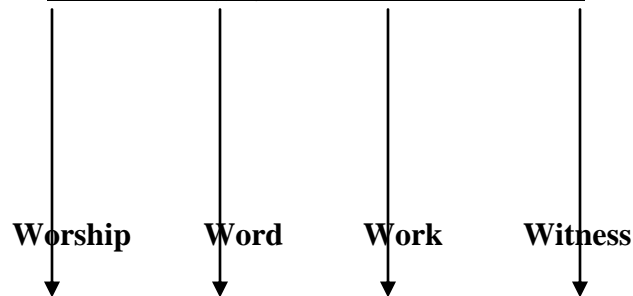
Now that your ministry is structured with the opening additives of foundation, I behoove for you to continue with a strong and structured Christian Education program.

This program will grant construction for your new and vibrant ministry.

Examine the four w's, for a guideline.



### *The Ministry of Christian Education!*



1. **Worship:** Worship is a delicate part in the life of the believer. Worship establishes a core relationship between you and God that signifies your love for his unmerited favor and tender mercies. This is proclaimed through music, poetry, liturgical dance, personal devotion, skits, and Christian rap.
2. **Word:** The Word is the center of our faith. The Word of God strengthens and encourages the believer on their Christian journey. The Word of God provides a compass and direction for a lifestyle of holiness, maturity, self-esteem, and spiritual prosperity.
3. **Works:** Works is a method that allows the believer to agree with their fellow Christians in a season of prayer and meditation. It's so important that we teach our youth the profundity and power of prayer. As a leader you must personally understand and teach that there isn't a proper or a certain way to pray. Prayer doesn't have an outlined format of position or speech, but it's done through a heart of sincerity. The Holy Spirit makes intercession for us unto the Father, because we don't know what we should pray.
4. **Witness:** We are called by Jesus Christ to be his disciples and to share the knowledge of his saving grace. As Christians we can become comfortable or at ease in our faith and forget to share Jesus Christ with our friends and family. **Matthew 28:18-20** says, "And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'"



# Organizational Management

In order to maintain a healthy and active organization, managerial skills are needed. It's important for every leader and youth officer in the ministry to understand the importance of their call and their role of leadership. It's common for me to ask a person who's eager to work in a ministry, "What's your purpose?"

Because of the severity of the question and then their reply, I'm not questioning their motives, but I'm questioning their spiritual drive of knowing what it means to be a kingdom builder.

Of course, there are several youth workers who are placed and voted into their positions. Knowing this- they could've been elected or appointed to that position, but their appointment and position does not guarantee that they are anointed. It's better for you to identify these people before the governmental structure of the ministry begins.

It's with extreme importance that we ask God for his direction and where it is that he wants us to work in the life of the church. Understanding our call and purpose is an important factor while determining our roles of leadership in the church.

In the churches that I have given leadership to, I have established two different types of systems to help steer leadership. They are; the Youth Council (youth) and the Youth Advisory Committee (adults).

**Youth Council:** The YC consists of youth that are active in the ministry. This council gives them the opportunity to become active in the decisions and direction of the ministry. The YC consists of a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Being a member of the YC, the youth should gain the advantage of becoming a leader not only in the church but also in their community.

When choosing your YC officers, you may opt to have an election and allow them to be chosen through their peers.



Here is a guide that I've composed to use to choose my officers.

## *The Constitution Of A The Youth Council*

### **I. Name**

The \_\_\_\_\_ does hereby affirm the creation of the Youth Council, hereafter referred to as the YC.

### **II. Purpose**

The purpose of the YC shall be to represent the interests of the youth body of \_\_\_\_\_, to act as a mediator and liaison between the youth ministry body and Youth Advisory Committee, and interests of the youth ministry at large.

### **III. The Structure of the Government**

#### *1. Youth Council:*

The YC shall include the YC President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the YAC Liaison.

### **IV. Requirements of the Body**

#### *1. Requirements for Eligibility:*

Persons who are eligible for office shall be active in the present youth ministry. They shall be active participants in Sunday School, Bible Study, and Sunday Morning Worship.

#### *2. Duties and Responsibilities:*



The YC shall convene approximately one time per month to define and review the specific responsibilities of each officer as per the needs and requirements of the church.

## V. Methods & Policies

### 1. *Voting Procedures:*

The YC shall be responsible for reviewing the activities of the youth ministry and shall vote to approve or disapprove resolutions. Each YC officer shall have one vote. All votes shall be decided per majority vote.

### 2. *Amendment of the Constitution:*

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by any YC officer. An amendment may be approved for ratification by a majority vote of the YC and YAC. An approved amendment shall then be submitted to the youth ministry for ratification. A 2/3 vote is necessary for adoption of a ratified amendment.

### 3. *Appendices:*

Specific documents related to the contents of the Constitution shall be made available in the Appendix. Appendices may be added, edited, revised, or removed by a majority vote of the YC.

### 4. *Vacancies:*

Those positions on the YC made vacant by resignation, dismissal, or other circumstances shall be filled by nomination and appointment. Each officer shall nominate one eligible individual as per *Amendment IV, Section 1: Requirements for eligibility* and the YC shall vote concerning the nominated individuals.

### 5. *Parliamentarian:*

A duly qualified YAC parliamentarian shall be appointed yearly by the YAC, to act as advisor to the YC.

### 6. *Rules of Order:*

In all formal meetings and procedures the YC shall adhere to Roberts Rules of Order.



## **VI. Election of Officers**

### *1. Application for Candidacy:*

Each prospective candidate shall complete and return an application for candidacy (see *Appendix C: Application for Candidacy*). Applications shall be made available to the youth ministry body for no less than two weeks before candidates are chosen. The YAC shall review the applications as per *Article IV, Section 1: Requirements for Eligibility*.

### *2. Voting Procedures:*

YC officers shall be elected by majority vote. All votes shall be secret ballot. In the case of a tie, a run-off shall be held between those candidates at the earliest convenience of the YC and the youth ministry body at large.

### *3. Tallying Committee:*

Electoral votes shall be counted and tallied by no less than three YC officers, including the YC President and/or the Vice-President of the YC and the Parliamentarian. No candidates shall be allowed to sit on this committee.

## ***Youth Council***

### ***Appendix to the Constitution***

The organized structure of the Youth Council shall be based upon a chain of accountability, which shall not be confused with a chain of command. The positional nature of the Youth Council shall not legislate the acts of power, but it shall rather designate the lines of communication and responsibility.



## **Youth Pastor**

## **Youth Director(s)**

## **Youth Advisory Committee Liaison, Parliamentarian**

## **Youth Council: President Vice President Secretary, Treasurer Cabinet Members**

### **YC President: Shall**

1. Preside as chairperson over the YC meetings.
2. Be familiar with and assist others in complying with the constitution and parliamentary procedures.
3. Hold the VP of the YC accountable to the duties of their respective job descriptions.
4. Represent the YC in the Youth Advisory Committee.
5. Be committed first to the YC and then to the YAC in the times of differences of opinion.
6. Coordinate the interest of the YC with those of the YAC in order to maintain and serve the interest of the YC as a whole.

### **YC Vice President: Shall**

1. Report directly to the YC President on all matters.
2. Act with the authority of the YC President during his or her absence.
3. Coordinate the meetings of the YC, gathering information from each officer and assembling as agenda for each meeting.
4. Hold all YC officers accountable to the duties of their respective jobs descriptions and to the requirements of their respective positions.



**YC Secretary:** Shall

1. Report directly to the VP of the YC and then to the President on all matters.
2. Record the minutes of each YC meeting, then distribute them at least two weeks before the next scheduled meeting.
3. Act as historian, keeping a thorough and an up-to-date file of minutes for each YC meeting in order that the said minutes of all YC meetings may be made assessable for future councils.

**YC Treasurer:** Shall

1. Report directly to the Vice President of the YC, Donations Coordinator of the YAC, and then to the President on all matters.
2. Shall advice the YC on all financial matters.
3. Help assist in the authorization of all funds as approved by the YC
4. Develop and track the allocated budget, submitting a report of all financial activities in the light of the said budget at least every other month.

***Application for Candidacy***

***APPLICATION FOR (check one):***

- President  
 Vice President  
 Secretary  
 Treasurer

**PERSONAL**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_





*Please attach a half-page, typed essay answering the following questions:*

1. Why do you want to be a member of the Youth Council of the 34th Street Church of God?
2. What are your goals, and how do you plan to put these goals into action?
3. Please give a statement of your faith and personal testimony?

**Youth Advisory Committee:** The YAC consists of adults who share the vision of the youth ministry. This committee serves as partners to the YC, to steer leadership and give guidance in the decisions that are made for the direction of the ministry.

Also, the YAC are leaders who share the experience with the YC, not a dictatorship to the YC. The YAC should consist of a youth pastor, youth leaders, and or parents. They can be appointed by the Senior Pastor.

The YC and YAC are leaders within the church. I would advice the youth pastor or primary youth leader to facilitate classes pertaining to leadership and training skills for the committees.

John Maxwell, a pastor and prolific author writes in his book, *Developing the Leader within You*, that “Leadership is influence. Not only is leadership influence, but everything rises and falls upon leadership.”

The next step in organizational management, after establishing your committees, is a vision and mission statement for the ministry.

**Vision Statement:** Your vision statement is a clear and concise notion of the ministry and its long term goals. It should outline a future goal and expectation.

**Mission statement:** A mission statement is a statement that outlines the purpose of the ministry and what you plan to accomplish.



Upon the completion of your vision and mission statement the ministry is ready to plan and implement structure for their youth ministry.

I have outlined five simple ways to channel the stability of the set purpose for the new ministry.

1. Spiritual- The tracked spiritual growth of the ministry
2. Social- Local and community fellowship
3. Study- Educational training
4. Stature- Values of integrity, character, and self-esteem
5. Service- Mission and community outreach

WOW. You've done it. You can now take a sigh of relief. I tell you my brothers and sisters, God is ready to do a marvelous work in the life of his church, and he's looking for you. Once again it's my prayer that this brief informational instruction booklet has served as a helpful document for your ministry.

We once again would like to thank you for your support of this ministry. I guarantee you, as you continue to pray for me and the support staff of Jeffery A.J. Johnson Ministries will be a thriving force in Christendom for youth and young adult ministry.

If you have any questions or comments, please detach the bottom form and send it to

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Tampa, FL 33605  
Website: [www.jajj.org](http://www.jajj.org)  
Ministry Information: [info@jajj.org](mailto:info@jajj.org)



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**Church Name:**

**Church Address:**

**Youth Leader:**

**Telephone Number:**

**Email Address:**



**Questions, Comments, and Concerns:**



# About the Author



Reverend Doctor Jeffery A.J. Johnson

Jeffery Alex James Johnson was called to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ at the early age of 12, and has been striving to serve with excellence ever since. He has vast experience in a number of arenas and has developed into a proven leader, motivator, pastor, and teacher. Through these experiences coupled with a unique ability to reach adults as well as youth, Jeffery Johnson possesses the ability to deliver powerful and life changing messages. He has ministered in the United States as well as abroad in South America and the British Islands.

Pastor Johnson continues to follow the destiny that God has for his life. For the past seven years Pastor Johnson has served in vocational pastoral ministry. Currently Pastor Johnson works diligently to assist in the development of the vision of The Rev. Dr. Thomas Scott and the 34th Street Church of God; Restoring Broken People. As the full time Pastor of Assimilation and Conservation he's responsible for the discipleship of all new believers and new members, overseeing small groups, baptisms, deaconate training, Academic Dean of Reformation Life Bible Institute, the tracking the 900+ members of the church, and serving on the Kings Kid's Christian Academy Administration Team and Board of Directors. During the years of 2005-2008, Pastor Johnson has helped to disciple well over 175+ new parishioners and converts into the family of 34th Street Church of God.

He is a graduate of Warner Southern College in Lake Wales, Florida, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Church Ministries. He has continued his education with a Masters of Theology and a Doctorate of Divinity Degree from St. Thomas Theological Seminary. Still a young man, Dr. Johnson's accomplishments are wide spread. Licensed at 19 and ordained at 22, Pastor Johnson holds the esteem blessing as being one of the youngest ever licensed and ordained clergymen in the Church of God, Anderson, Indiana.

Currently he serves on the Board of Directors for the Florida State Association of the Church of God as the state's recording secretary. Dr. Johnson is the past president of the Florida State Association of the Church of God Youth Ministry in which his ministry was to oversee the various youth ministries in the church of God for the state of Florida.

Dr. Johnson is the founder and director of Jeffrey A.J. Johnson Ministries, Inc., a non-profit ministry that reaches communities and congregations through consultation, revivals, workshop, and Leadership seminars. Under that umbrella of JAJJ Ministries Inc, is Project L.E.A.P., a mentoring program which is currently housed in a middle school and a high school. For his efforts through this initiative he was awarded the Volunteer of the Year award through the United Way of Tampa Bay, Fl. He's married to Marla Scott-Johnson. Sis. Johnson is the Director of Youth and Youth Fine Arts for the 34th Street Church of God. Together they are the parents of Jeffery T.J Johnson.



**Instructional Notations**



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