

Youth Purpose Statement

The purpose of the Youth Ministry at Faith Bible Fellowship Church is to build up, equip, disciple, and sanctify young people in God's Word so they may genuinely worship Christ, faithfully walk with Christ, and sacrificially work for Christ alongside the whole church body.

This purpose is fulfilled through the following areas:

1. Faithful Teaching of God's Word

The foundational piece of spiritual growth comes through time spent studying and teaching God's Word. The two venues in which this occurs are Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings during our Sunday School hour. My hope is that through the faithful instruction in God's Word, students would grow in their knowledge of God and their love of Christ, while also being made more like Him. (John 17:17, 2 Timothy 3:16-17)

2. Fellowship of Small Groups

The teaching of God's Word is indeed our foundation, but the fellowship of our small groups serves a similar purpose. Our small group ministry exists for students of every age to gather on Wednesday or Sunday evenings in order to grow deeper in God's Word. Our hope is that students can commune with each other for the sake of nurturing the seeds that have been planted. This model will be the primary way in which we will pursue Biblical discipleship. Small groups are currently divided into 4 groups (2 guys and 2 girls groups). (Acts 2:42)

3. Ministry to Parents

While the primary beneficiaries of this ministry are the youth in our midst, ministering to parents is indeed a major part of our focus. We acknowledge that the decisions we make for the students will in turn impact each of their parents in unique ways. Our hope is to involve the parents in this ministry as often as we see fit. This could include: individual/group meetings with the pastor or leaders, hosting cookouts or movie nights, chaperoning for certain events, attending family activities, or participating in youth group dinners. Our goal is to be as available to the parents as we are to the students. We also firmly believe parents ought to be the primary spiritual and Biblical guides in the lives of their children. While youth ministry will meet certain needs in that area, we believe the parents have a great responsibility to instruct and lead their children to be true Christ-followers. (Proverbs 22:6)

4. Activities and Events

While our ministry is deeply rooted in Scripture, we do not want to dismiss the fact that God has blessed us with many ways to enjoy our time here. Our youth ministry is and will be involved in various activities and events throughout the year. Some of these events will take the youth off-site for things such as pool parties, scavenger hunts, bowling, amusement parks, etc. We will also participate in events such as, "Trivia and Wings Night". In addition, students will have the opportunity to join our Praise Team and Service Team through which they will be able to use their God-given abilities to glorify Him and serve others.

5. Serving Those in our Midst

One of the ways our youth ministry is able to express its devotion to God's Word and His people is to participate in service projects for those among us. With the help of our youth leaders, we will organize and plan certain projects where we can serve those within our church as well as those in the community. Our goal in this ministry is to not simply be hearers of God's Word, but doers also. Serving others will be a major focus of our group as we continue to grow in God's Word together. (James 1:22; 14-26)

6. Mission Trips

We believe that our hearts and minds must always be fixed on the Biblical truth that as God's children, we are constantly "on mission". Short-term mission trips whether domestically or internationally, is a way to prove that we have been called by our Savior to be on mission throughout our lives. Mission trips do not only serve as a way to be a light to all those we come in contact with, but also as a way to sanctify and transform our own lives. (Romans 10:12-17)

7. Summer Camps

One last area in which our youth are able to experience growth, renewal, and sanctification is through summer camp. Each summer, the youth will have an opportunity to go away for a week, or stay local, in which they will hear Biblical teaching, engage in small group study, and participate in fun activities and events. While summer camp is often a full week, there will be plenty of time for students to spend alone in God's Word and worship Him. These camps do not only serve as an opportunity for students to get away and have fun for a week, but also to have a time of rest and renewal. (Mark 6:31)