

Enhancing Relational Youth Ministry

by Doug Fields

Training Notes

Programs exist to facilitate relational ministry

Keep your eyes open

Maximize your limited time

Get physical

Reflection questions:

To get the most out of your online video experience we encourage you to take some time to answer the following questions:

- How would you define “relational youth ministry” in one sentence?
- When it comes to relational youth ministry, do you feel like you are equipped to be successful in developing relationships with teenagers? If not, what might be needed to help you feel more comfortable in developing relationships?
- How might your youth ministry team more effectively connect with teenagers on the fringe?
- What does it feel like to enter your youth ministry as a visitor and/or stranger? Can you articulate specific feelings that students might be experiencing?
- What hurdles do you experience to connect with teenagers who don’t really know anyone or don’t seem to want to be involved or get connected?
- What do you think of Doug’s phrase: “Something is better than nothing”?
- How much time do you have during a week to be relational away from your weekly youth ministry events?
- What are some specific ways you might be able to maximize your limited time and become a more relational youth worker?
- What are your reactions to teenagers having “skin hunger” and what can you do about it?
- What are some boundaries that are needed for your youth ministry team for safe and appropriate touch?



If you'd like to receive a DYMU certificate at the end of this course, be sure to answer the questions online.

Talk it over:

- Consider sharing what you’ve learned with others.
- Process this information with another leader on your team.
- Write out specific questions you want to ask someone on your leadership team.
- Leave a comment in the space below the video window and engage with other DYMU participants.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Doug Fields

Doug Fields is most well known for his longevity in youth ministry (30+ years as a youth pastor) and the award-winning book Purpose Driven Youth Ministry—which is a youth ministry textbook translated in over 20 languages and used all over the world. He’s also the author of 60+ books, including Your First 2 Years in Youth Ministry and Speaking To Teenagers. He’s the co-founder of DownloadYouthMinistry.com where he currently spends his time creating resources like this for people like you.