

---

YOUTH MINISTRY  
made  
~~EASY~~  
~~SIMPLE~~  
POWERFUL

An Introduction to  
Gospel Advancing Ministry

*(Includes a 7-step ministry-integration plan)*

---

By Greg Stier of Dare 2 Share Ministries, coordinated by Emily Stodghill



D A R E 2 S H A R E

## Greg Stier

Greg Stier has been used by God to impact the lives of hundreds of thousands of teenagers across America. He combines amazing true-life stories with his own unique brand of humor to communicate Biblical truth in a way that not only inspires, but equips teenagers for action. As founder and president of Dare 2 Share, Greg leads his team toward the single goal of mobilizing teenagers to reach their world with the good news of Jesus Christ (Acts 1:8). He is the author of eighteen books and numerous resources, including *Life in 6 Words*, *Dare 2 Share: A Field Guide for Sharing Your Faith* and *Gospelize Your Youth Ministry*.



Visit [www.gregstier.org](http://www.gregstier.org).

Follow Greg on Twitter [@GregStier](https://twitter.com/GregStier). 

© 2016 Dare 2 Share Ministries. Reprint/redistribution permission is granted for up to 50 copies.  
Not for resale.

All scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. [www.zondervan.com](http://www.zondervan.com) The “NIV” and “New International Version” are trademarks registered in the United States Patent and Trademark Office by Biblica, Inc.™

Scripture quotations marked (NASB) are taken from the New American Standard Bible (NASB) Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation.

Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved.

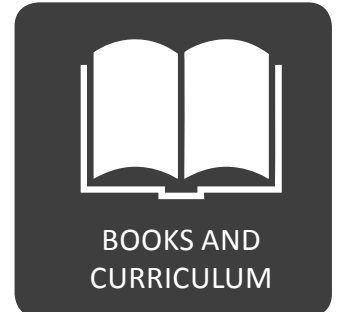


D A R E 2 S H A R E

## Your source for tools, training and resources to create a Gospel Advancing Youth Ministry.

- **Spiritual Maturity:** Nurture teens who are passionate about pursuing Christ.
- **Faith Ownership:** Build confidence as teens see the power of the gospel.
- **Missional Lifestyle:** Unleash disciples who take their faith out to their world.
- **New Believers:** Advance Christ's Kingdom through your ministry.

Click the boxes below to explore:



**We know the gospel changes everything - for believers, and for youth groups!**

Visit [www.dare2share.org](http://www.dare2share.org).

Follow us on Twitter [@Dare2Share](https://twitter.com/Dare2Share).



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Intro.....	6
The Importance of Youth Group.....	9
Models and Mentors.....	10
Community.....	11
Mission.....	12
Theology.....	13
A Safe Place to Confess and Confide.....	14
What a Gospelized Youth Group Looks Like.....	15
What it Values.....	16
What it Does.....	19
Begin to Gospelize Your Youth Group.....	24
Start with Prayer.....	25
Create a Bold Vision.....	29
Put Your Bold Vision into Practice (7-Step Plan).....	37
Conclusion — Check out Gospelize!.....	40



**//** I contend for this,  
that to gospelize a man is the  
greatest miracle in the world. All the  
other miracles are wrapped up in this  
one. To gospelize a man, or, in other  
words, to convert him, is a greater  
work than to open the  
eyes of the blind. **//**

—Charles Spurgeon

# INTRO

Youth leaders are discovering that traditional youth ministry is no longer working for making passionate, lifelong disciples, and many agree that something needs to change! Sadly, a lot of the change ends up centering around a more engaging and all-around entertaining program. But they soon discover that if the entertainment fades, so do the students.

So what really needs to change?

Over the past 25 years of training and encouraging youth leaders and students to share the gospel, the leaders who tell us they are seeing deep and lasting Kingdom impact are the ones taking on the values of the Gospel Advancing philosophy. Not only that, these same youth leaders are actually excited to see what God will do in and through the lives of their teens.

A gospelized youth group is the result of the good news of Jesus moving both deeply into the souls of your teenagers and outwardly through your teenagers to others.



This type of youth group is distinguished by 7 values running through the DNA of everything it does:

1. Intercessory prayer fuels it.
2. Relational evangelism drives it.
3. Leaders fully embrace and model it.
4. A disciple multiplication strategy guides it.
5. A bold vision focuses it.
6. Biblical outcomes measure it.
7. Ongoing programs reflect it.

These 7 values were taken from the early church as seen in Acts that experienced exponential growth in just the first four chapters.

**Check out the excitement one youth leader expressed when she began looking at using these same 7 values in her youth ministry:**



*I must say I did not expect what I got! Our leaders are literally lit on fire and more charged for the gospel more than ever. The very fiber of our youth department & leaders is changed. Since the Gospel Advancing training, we have wiped the slate clean and are focusing totally on gospelizing our ministry and our church. To know that this philosophy is scriptural, Spirit-filled and relevant 2000 years later... has ignited a passion to disciple and to be disciplined.*

— Carolyn Smith



## THIS eRESOURCE

As you read through this eResource, you and your team will sample a gospelized youth group's values, actions, and plan for beginning to implement 2 of the 7 Gospel Advancing Ministry philosophy values into your own youth group context.

Before we get to the practical steps for gospelizing your youth group, let's first lay the foundation for the importance of youth group.



**THE  
IMPORTANCE  
OF YOUTH GROUP**

---

You're a youth leader. You get it. Youth group is important ... (reality check!) But, don't just skip ahead and label this the "no duh!" section. It's good to remind yourself – you battle-worn, in the trenches, youth leader! – about why you do what you do. Plus, you want to be able to have this in your arsenal to communicate clearly to parents and the rest of your team.

## MODELS AND MENTORS



Parents are called to be the primary spiritual mentor of their own teenagers, but teens also need other godly adults in their lives. It's important for teens to see that believing in God is more than just their mom's or dad's belief system. Young people need to have models and mentors who reinforce all of the spiritual truths they are learning from their parents. Of course – sadly so – there are many parents who don't pass on their faith in Christ, or don't know Christ, making the youth leader's role all-the-more vital.

In the early Church culture, it wasn't just parents who poured into the younger folks. Older men poured into younger men and older women poured into younger women ([Titus 2:1-8](#)).



Even the psalmist refers in old age to the lifelong impact of the education imparted to him as a child:

*O God, You have taught me from my youth, And I still declare Your wondrous deeds. And even when I am old and gray, O God, do not forsake me, Until I declare Your strength to this generation, Your power to all who are to come. [Psalm 71:17,18](#) (NASB)*

Although your students may not tell you how much of an impact you are making in their lives, you better believe that you can and have the potential to impart to them spiritual truths that will impact the trajectory of their lives. (You should get a raise!)

## COMMUNITY



*And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. [Hebrews 10:24,25](#)*

In an age of bullying, gossip, slander and hate, which can destroy a teenager's self-identity, young people need a community of peers who can lift them up, encourage them and challenge them in all the right ways.

Teens also need a place where they can discover their spiritual gifting with outlets where they can begin using these gifts to serve others. And through the use of their gifts, teens will begin to see their hearts' desire to selflessly serve others. (*Just like Jesus did!*)

## MISSION



When Jesus challenged His (most-likely teenaged) disciples to “go and make disciples of all nations,” He was tapping into the activist wiring of these young men.

Teens today live in a cause-centric world. They want to be a part of something big, something of value, something that will change the world. In the same way Jesus tapped into the disciples’ wiring, your teenager needs to be challenged with the same mission, a cause greater than themselves, to reach their peers with the good news of Jesus in a loving, contagious and relational way.

Youth group is just the place where this mission can be sown and cultivated through training. Oh, and did I mention that when teens learn how to share their faith, they deepen their own by solidifying what they believe? No teen wants to sound like they don’t know what they’re talking about. For the things they stand for, they want to stand firm in them! So you better believe that your students will commit to memory and learn all they can on what they are talking about when they go out to share their faith.

As your youth group becomes a Gospel Advancing Ministry, the message of Jesus will advance in and through your teens. This process will accelerate the discipleship process in the life of your teens in ways you could never imagine!



## THEOLOGY



*Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.*

[Ephesians 4:14,15](#) (NLT)

Youth group is a place where teenagers can wrestle through the theology of their Christian faith and have it challenged, corrected and reinforced in a powerful, personal, and safe way under the guidance of a youth leader who knows how to ask great questions and point them toward sound, biblical truth. This then results in teens knowing and owning their faith on a deeper level. Youth groups and small groups should be a place where teenagers can ask tough questions and even share doubts and struggles without fear of being shamed or looked down upon.

An effective youth ministry helps lay a solid foundation of biblical truth for the rest of a teenager's life.



## A SAFE PLACE TO CONFESS AND CONFIDE



*“Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.” [James 5:16](#) (NASB)*

Teenagers who struggle with sin and temptation often have nowhere to confide and confess. They feel trapped by their brokenness. But a healthy youth ministry can create a safe space for teenagers to open up and talk honestly about their struggles. Of course this doesn't mean they should confess every sin to everyone. It does mean that they should have a handful of others who know their struggles and can pray for and encourage them to shake off the weight of sin's chains and walk through life in dependence on the power of Christ in them. Teenagers who push their struggles down and never open up often struggle later on in life with addictive and destructive behavior.

An effective youth ministry can help teenagers deal with these challenges now and prepare them to put on the armor of God both now and later. And that's the power of a youth ministry invested in advancing the message of the gospel in and through their teens.

For an expansion on “The Importance of Youth Group”, check out my blog [4 Reasons Why I'm Not Giving Up on Youth Ministry](#).



SO WHAT DOES  
A *GOSPELIZED*  
YOUTH GROUP  
LOOK LIKE?

---

## WHAT IT VALUES



Earlier, I mentioned that a gospelized youth group focuses on seven values that are fused into the DNA of everything it does. Here's a little more on each of the 7 values:

01

### INTERCESSORY PRAYER FUELS IT.

Intercessory prayer is the engine of a Gospel Advancing Ministry. When you lead from your knees, you see teenagers transformed spiritually, and they learn to leverage the same unstoppable prayer power on behalf of their campuses, classmates and communities.

02

### RELATIONAL EVANGELISM DRIVES IT.

Mobilizing teens to lovingly and intentionally reach other teens with the good news of Jesus is core. Teens who engage in relational evangelism get to witness firsthand the transforming power of the Holy Spirit at work in the lives of those they lead to faith in Christ!

03

### LEADERS FULLY EMBRACE AND MODEL IT.

*Jesus said, "A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher" (Luke 6:40).* What's true of a rabbi is true of a youth leader. If you want your students to prioritize relational evangelism, you and your leaders must consistently set the pace personally.



04

## A DISCIPLE MULTIPLICATION STRATEGY GUIDES IT.

Jesus took his disciples on a journey into deeper and deeper levels of engagement. He took them from:

Unbeliever → Believer → Worker → Disciple-Maker.

*(For more on this model visit [Sonlife.com](http://Sonlife.com))*

The same pattern that Jesus followed should be emulated in your youth group as you disciple your teenagers.

05

## A BOLD VISION FOCUSES IT.

Establishing a bold vision for your ministry that can only be accomplished in God's strength will inspire your entire group. It gives everyone something to push for, pray for and praise God for. The biggest, boldest, best vision ever articulated is found in [Matthew 28:19-20](#).

06

## BIBLICAL OUTCOMES MEASURE IT.

The New Testament is full of examples of how the early Church measured outcomes. When you measure Biblical outcomes, it provides you with a gauge by which you can assess your progress, identify weaknesses, spot opportunities for even more growth (best practices), and praise God for the fruit.

07

## ONGOING PROGRAMS REFLECT IT.

In youth ministry, we program out our priorities. When evangelism and disciple multiplication are real priorities in your ministry, they are consistently built into your weekly youth group program rundown sheet, and become a focus throughout your annual youth ministry calendar.

**//** When you make  
the gospel central to everything  
you are doing, you are gospelizing  
your ministry. **//**

—Greg Stier, *Gospelize Your Youth Ministry*

## WHAT IT DOES



Putting it into action — 6 ways to begin gospelizing your youth group  
*(Note: gospelized youth groups are not limited to these 6 action points.)*



### 1) MAKE INTERCESSORY PRAYER CENTRAL

Pray weekly for the lost teenagers in your community to be reached with the good news. As [1 Timothy 2:1-4](#) reminds us, we should have a “pray first” philosophy when it comes to youth ministry programming and these prayers should circle and cycle around reaching the lost for Jesus. Why not—as one youth leader told me he does with his youth group—spend the last few minutes of every youth group meeting praying for each other to be filled with the Holy Spirit, for the lost to be reached and for revival to break out in your teenagers’ schools?



## 2) GIVE THE GOSPEL EVERY WEEK (TAKE IT TO THE CROSS!)

The “punchline” to every youth talk should be the gospel. Preaching on sexual purity? It only fully makes sense in the shadow of the cross! Self-image? Teenagers can only truly discover who they are if they view themselves through the lens of the gospel! Friends? There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother, the resurrected Jesus! And on and on it goes. No matter what you are talking on, in the words of Spurgeon, take your text and “make a beeline for the cross.”

To me this is a no-brainer. When you clearly give the gospel on a weekly basis (and some way for teenagers to respond) it lets your teenagers know that anytime they bring a friend to youth group, that friend will hear the good news of Jesus. My son has been sharing Jesus with a friend for months now and part of his strategy is getting him to youth group as much as possible. Because the youth leader consistently gives the gospel, it gives my son a springboard to have continued gospel conversations with his buddy.

### 3) SHARE OUTREACH STORIES

Storytelling has always been a part of Christian culture and there is no greater brand of this than teenagers taking the opportunity to share stories of those they are engaging with the message of Jesus. This can really set the temperature for evangelism in your youth group and, if done consistently, create a culture where evangelism is part of the expectation and excitement on a weekly basis.

Of course not all of these stories should be the miraculous ones of radical teen conversions. We should also include stories of rejection or those who need more time to process through the gospel. All of these types of stories can help to create a campfire type atmosphere where teenagers can huddle around and warm up to all that God is doing through them to reach their generation for Jesus. At Dare 2 Share, we call this "[Taking 5 for THE Cause](#)".



## 4) TAKE COMMUNION TOGETHER

That's right, if your church allows it, take communion together in youth group once in a while! This ordinance given to us by Jesus Himself keeps His shed blood and torn body as central to our gatherings. Many theologians believe that communion was a weekly habit with the early Church and tied into their regular "love feasts" ([1 Corinthians 11:20-34](#)). There's no better way to refocus our teenagers on the good news than to take communion together with them.



## 5) MAKE A GOSPEL WALL

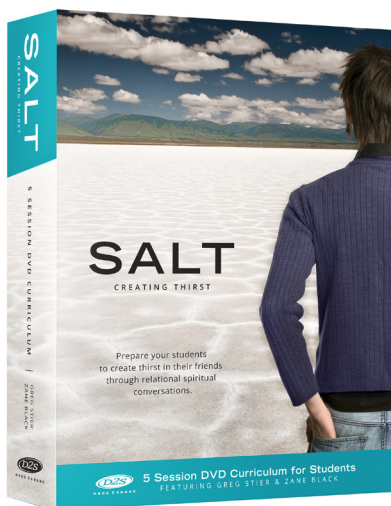
Have one of the four walls of your youth room as the designated "Gospel Wall." On it you can paint the [GOSPEL acrostic](#) or put up a [GOSPEL banner](#). Maybe at the base of this wall you can put up a table filled with faith-sharing tools or a "Cause Circle" where teenagers can put the first names of friends they are seeking to reach with the good news of Jesus. However you make it, a Gospel Wall is a visceral reminder of what teenagers are called to do ... reach out to their peers with the hope of Jesus!

## 6) INCORPORATE FAITH-SHARING REGULARLY

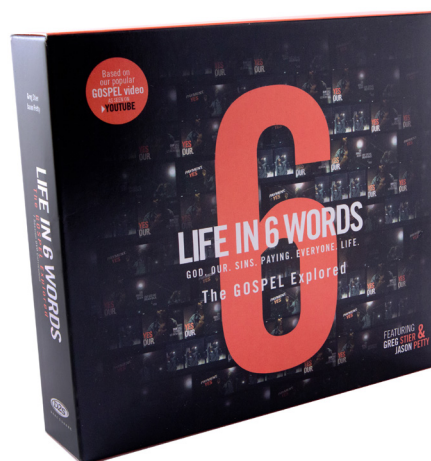
Add a faith-sharing component to your regular programming. This includes teaching your students a consistent gospel message, training your teens to navigate a gospel conversation from take off to touchdown, and challenging your teens with opportunities to actually share their faith. When they do, you'll see your teens put skin in the game for their faith and rely on God in ways they haven't before.

Need a place to begin? Try using or creating a faith-sharing curriculum that will motivate your teens to know the gospel message and to begin sharing it with others.

HERE ARE SOME FAITH-SHARING SERIES WE BELIEVE YOU'LL ENJOY:



Get your teens out and sharing their faith with SALT



Go deep into the theology of the gospel with Life in 6 Words



Model relational evangelism with GOSPEL Journey Maui



**BEGIN TO  
GOSPELIZE  
YOUR YOUTH  
GROUP**





Now that you have a better idea of what a *gospelized* youth group looks like, let's focus on integrating intercessory prayer (and making it a top priority) and creating a bold vision to frame and guide your ministry efforts!



## START WITH PRAYER

*"They all joined together constantly in prayer..."* Acts 1:14

It's clear by reading the book of Acts that prayer was the engine of every move the early believers made. The same should be true of our ministries today. We should always make an effort to pray first in our ministry strategy, problem solving, group meetings and disciple multiplication efforts.



## THE POWER OF PRAYER

---



Prayer is the portal through which we yield ourselves to the power of the Holy Spirit. The act of prayer is an act of dependence. Prayer is letting us know that we can't, but believing that God can. It's how we stay connected to the Vine, because apart from Him we "can do nothing" John 15:5. Prayer also has a way of aligning our heart with God's so that when we come before Him, we seek and petition the things His heart seeks and desires.

The early church took on a "pray first" philosophy and as a result, thousands of Jews across Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and Galilee were transformed by the gospel.

As followers of Christ, we can have the exact same transformation take place in our youth ministries and communities, but first we have to begin on our knees.

## INTERCEDE FOR OTHERS

---



Are you interceding on behalf of your teenagers? Do you pray as a staff for them? Is intercessory prayer something you practice with your student leaders?

Over the last 25 years, Dare 2 Share has witnessed revival unfold in power-packed pockets across the country where the youth leaders are committed to intercessory prayer. They are looking to God to light that fire; not a strategy or a program or a method. And God is igniting their strategies in ways they never expected with results they could have never dreamed of.

Start taking prayer walks or shutting your door for 30 minutes a day or whatever you have to do to start making intercessory prayer a personal priority.

**//** We must pray. We must pray for each other and for the lost. We must pray for our churches and our communities. We must pray until our knees are numb and our voices are hoarse. We must pray until God answers. **//**

—Greg Stier, *Gospelize Your Youth Ministry*

Make prayer the first thing you do as a staff for your teenagers. Make time to pray for all the teenagers in your youth group and revival at their schools as part of your student leadership team meetings. Make intercessory prayer the engine of the train that drives your youth ministry efforts, not the caboose.

Want some creative ideas for approaching intercessory prayer in your youth ministry? Check out these 8 creative ideas [here](#).

## GET YOUR TEENS PRAYING



Many teens today surprisingly don't know how to pray beyond a "Santa Claus wish-list prayer" because either it was never modeled to them, or they were never taught how. Yet what better place than youth group to spend some time discussing the reasons for and learning how to pray!

Getting students involved in prayer will not only teach them how to pray, it will also help strengthen their personal prayer life throughout high school and the rest of their lives.

Before getting your teens involved in prayer, spend some time addressing questions like, why do we pray?, does prayer really work?, what do I say to God when I pray?, does God speak back and if so, how do I know it's Him?, and so on. Then, give your students some examples of how to pray. There are many examples on the internet to use, or you might have a few examples of your own. Dare 2 Share has a couple acrostics you can use if you don't already have one [here](#).

Once you've gone through these, give your students the opportunity to practice what they've learned in small groups or together when you pray so they can begin praying together and for one another.

## CREATE A BOLD VISION



*"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8*

Before Jesus ascended into the deep blue Judean sky, He gave His final instructions to His young followers. He told them to carry out His bold vision by taking His even bolder message to the ends of the earth. He even gave them a built-in strategy to do just that: start in Jerusalem (where they were at) and spread outwardly until everyone everywhere has an opportunity to hear, understand and respond to the gospel.

The baton of fulfilling that bold vision has been passed down from one generation of believers to the next and to the next. Now it is firmly in our hands!

How bold is your youth ministry vision? Or do you have one?

Yes, yes, I know your vision includes your teenagers being disciplined. But, if you engage them on the mission given to us by Jesus, they can't help but turn into fully devoted followers of Jesus. Why? Because, unlike Bible studies and discipleship meetings, evangelism forces teenagers to put skin in the game. It allows them to risk their social equity, or their "street cred," for the sake of the gospel.

So, with this as a backdrop, how do you craft a bold vision for your youth ministry?

Spend time praying for wisdom before you craft it. [James 1: 5](#) gives us one of those promises we can claim without hesitation in the planning process, *"If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."*

Before you run to the whiteboard to write out your rough draft, go to the prayer closet and pray. Every second spent on the front end of the planning process in prayer will yield unimaginable dividends to a bold vision that is tight and right for your youth ministry context.



## INCLUDE ALL THREE TARGET AREAS

The disciples' bold vision started where they were at (Jerusalem) and spread slowly outward (ends of the earth). In between there was the tough part of town (Samaria). And Jesus wanted His disciples to saturate all three target areas with the gospel.

I'll label it "across the street" (Jerusalem), "across the tracks" (Samaria), and "across the world" (ends of the earth). Each youth ministry needs a bold vision that has a local impact, a social impact and a global impact. Of course you probably already have some sort of vision for across the street, but what about across the tracks?

And what about global missions? Are you consistently seeking to give your teenagers a vision of taking the gospel to the ends of the earth? This is more than just doing a service project in a developing world country. This means that whatever we have them do (build a house, install a well, feed the poor) that they are doing what no government program could ever do ... and that is to bring the message of hope to those our teenagers are serving. We need to "gospelize" our missions trips and make sure our vision for the world goes beyond meeting mere temporal needs.

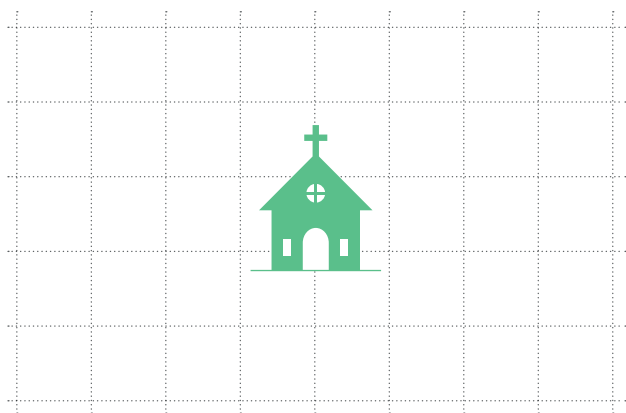


Jesus gave His disciples a bold vision that entailed the local, the gritty and the global. Our bold vision should encompass the same.

For expansion on this content, check out my blog titled [\*The 3 Places we need to GO with the Gospel.\*](#)

Clearly identify your “Jerusalem.”

At Dare 2 Share we challenge youth leaders to define their own version of Jerusalem (we call it their “Cause Turf”) by identifying the streets to the north, south, east and west of their church (and the schools within this area) that God has helped them see as their primary Cause Turf. This area of geography becomes their piece of the pie, their battlefield and their playground. It is within these four streets that most of their local ministry outreach and disciple multiplication efforts will go.



Draw the streets to the North, South, East and West of your church that could represent the specific community God is calling you to reach...

What’s your Jerusalem?

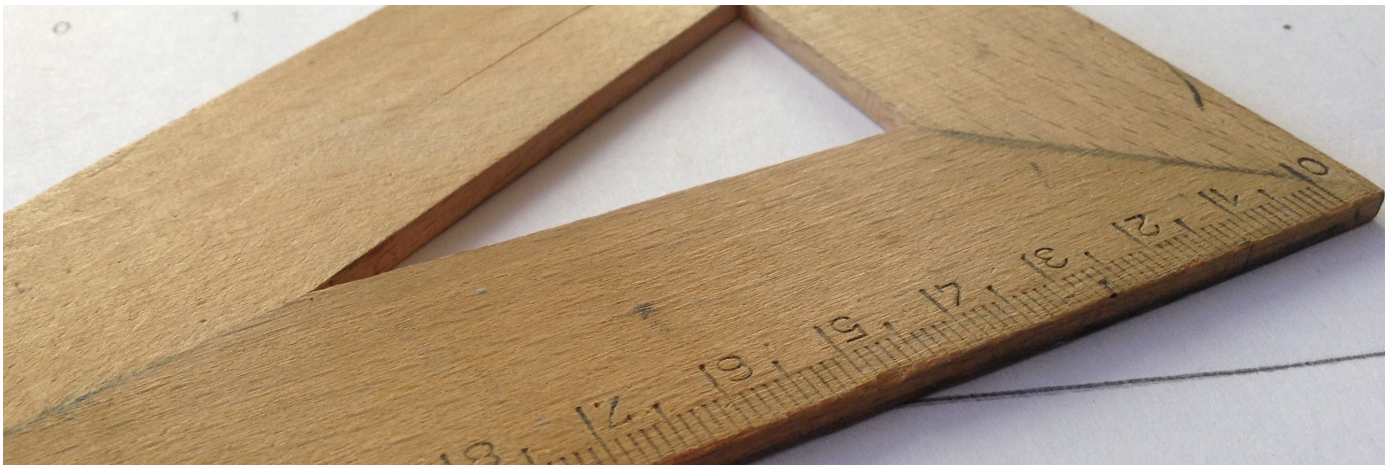


“ Developing a bold vision across the street, across the tracks and around the world will trigger miracles you never imagined. Lives will be changed, souls will be saved and tragic situations will be transformed. Your teens will never be the same... ”

—Greg Stier, *Gospelize Your Youth Ministry*

## MAKE SURE IT'S MEASURABLE IN SOME WAY

You need to have a vision that's measurable and that focuses on your youth group growing with disciples being made and multiplied – you need some way to track the right kind of progress. Using numbers in your statement like “100 new students” is a simple and effective way of making sure your vision is measurable and focused.



## ORGANIZE YOUR ENTIRE MINISTRY TO ACCOMPLISH YOUR BOLD VISION

Once you identify your bold vision, start organizing your thoughts and follow-up actions to accomplish it. Choose and train adult leaders who are modeling outreach and disciple multiplication in their own lives.

One free training Dare 2 Share provides for youth leaders wanting to advance the gospel within their own ministry is our webinars. Check out [this page](#) to find any upcoming and live webinars or to view our latest archived webinars.

Then, choose student leaders who don't just set up folding chairs for the youth group meeting, but actively fill them with the friends they desire to reach for Jesus. These are the students that will give your ministry momentum to advance the gospel to teens in your "Jerusalem." Show these students the bold vision you have created and train them to be leaders in carrying it out.

One of Dare 2 Share's training events for students and youth leaders wanting to advance the gospel in their own lives as well as in their individual worlds is [Lead THE Cause](#). Lead THE Cause is a week-long summer event for high school students that transforms young believers into leaders and lifelong disciples who are passionate for THE Cause of Christ and are able to relationally share the gospel, resulting in discipleship multiplication.



# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

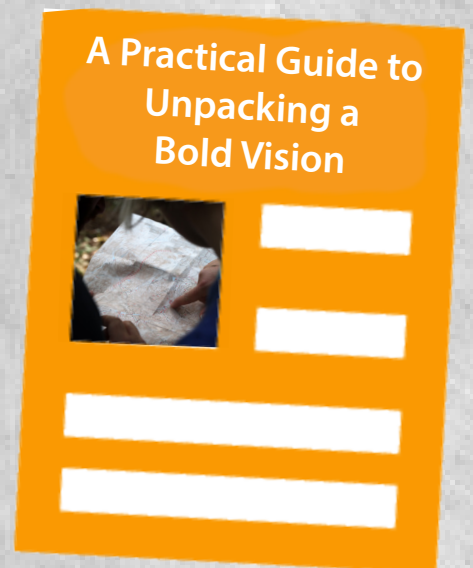
for thinking about and creating a bold vision for your ministry



Check out [this article](#) if you are beginning the journey of building a bold vision for your ministry.



Check out [this article](#) for tips on sharing your ministry vision with your Senior Pastor and tapping into his/her wisdom.



Check out [this article](#) for examples of what a bold vision looks like.

PUTTING YOUR  
BOLD VISION  
TO PRACTICE —  
A 7 STEP PLAN

---

## 7 STEPS TO BEGIN GOSPELIZING YOUR YOUTH GROUP

Now that we know what a gospelized youth group looks like and how to create a bold vision to get you there, let's get to the practical steps.

To keep it simple, we've outlined 7 steps to get you started. *(Note: the seven steps are only a suggestion for beginning to put your bold vision into practice. Everything can and should be customized to your own ministry context and will likely be a journey that includes more action points.)*



### INTERCESSORY PRAYER

This is the week to start your intercessory prayer for the upcoming changes. Bring all your leaders together – youth and adult – and light the fire in your spirits for all that God has in store for your teens. Make sure you bring something to write or type with because you may end up with some strong ideas for casting your bold vision.



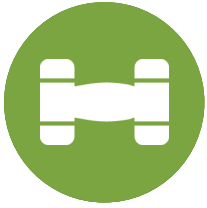
### IDENTIFY KEY STUDENT LEADERS

Take some time to talk to key student leaders who you can bring into the "Inner Gospelizing Circle" – teens who show leadership qualities and are already enthusiastic about learning more about God. Share with them a quick overview of a gospelized youth group and how you want them to be a part of making this transformation over the next few weeks.



### VISION

Dedicate your time to praying over and carefully piecing together the vision God has for your ministry. Make sure it's obtainable and measurable! Once you have your vision, put it somewhere you and your team can see it every time you go into your youth room/space.



## EVANGELISM TRAINING

Plan out ahead of time how you will train your students to share their faith. Do you need curriculum, handouts, other leaders to help train? How will your students participate in the training and gain practice? Maybe create scenarios students can role-play and practice a conversation they would actually have.



## ACTIVE FAITH-SHARING

It's time to open the throttle and release your students! Challenge them to apply what they learned in the training grounds and have a conversation with one of the friends they want to see know Jesus.



## OUTREACH STORY

Grab some snacks and have a storytelling night! Invite kids to come back with stories from their gospel conversations. Ask what worked well and what didn't. This is also a great time to encourage students that had "fail" stories to keep at it and try a different approach. Tell a story you had from a "failed gospel conversation" and how you tried again the next time.



## DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

This addresses the question, "My friend now knows Jesus. What's next?" Take your students through the basics of what discipleship is and what it looks like practically. (Hint: A big part of discipling a new believer includes what you've been doing for the past three weeks: training them what the gospel is and how to share it, challenging them to share the gospel, and sharing stories with your community of believers how those conversations went - what worked and what didn't and how to improve). For more on discipleship training, check out [4 Chair Discipling](#) by Dann Spader.

# CONCLUSION

---

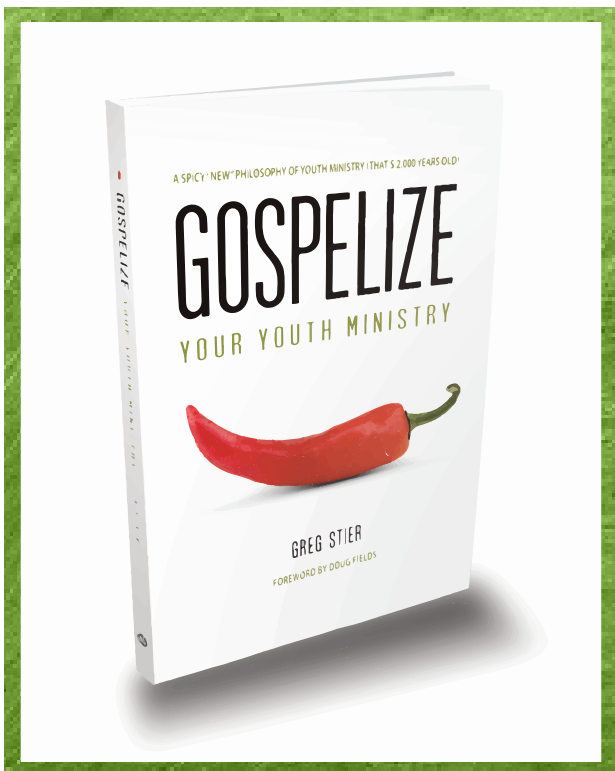


Ditch the traditional youth ministry approach. Instead gospelize your youth ministry! This doesn't mean you need to change everything you do in youth ministry (unless you want to!). It does mean you might need to do some reorganization, some talking to people, and getting serious at times, but you'll be glad you did when you see the kind of transformation that takes place when a youth ministry is centered on the message and mission of the gospel.

## EXPEDITE YOUR EFFORTS!

Now that you've sampled a *gospelized* youth ministry's values and activities, and gained some practical tips to start creating a gospelized youth ministry, expedite your efforts with my latest book titled [\*Gospelize Your Youth Ministry\*](#).

This book expands on the ideas in this e-resource, along with the overall philosophy of a [\*Gospel Advancing Ministry\*](#), giving you a complete overview of what a Gospel Advancing Ministry is, what it does, how it transforms ministries, and stories from youth leaders who have implemented this philosophy into their youth groups already!



**BUY NOW!**

Or visit <http://hubs.ly/H04IHbM0>



YOUTH GROUP MADE ~~EASY~~ ~~SIMPLE~~ POWERFUL



**DARE 2 SHARE**

[www.dare2share.org](http://www.dare2share.org)

[www.dare2share.org/gospelize/](http://www.dare2share.org/gospelize/)

1-800-462-8355