

TEENAGERS

TEACHING CHILDREN

A 4-week course to help teenagers
teach the basics of their faith

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Group[®]

Loveland, Colorado



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Teenagers Teaching Children

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Students will reflect on their teaching experiences and discover ways to encourage kids to grow in their faith.

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Introduction

TEENAGERS TEACHING CHILDREN

In the eyes of an 8-year-old, the teenagers in your class are heroes. They get to drive cars and go out on dates—glamorous pursuits that upper-elementary kids can only dream of and look forward to. Your teenagers have a unique window into these kids' lives. Why not bring the gospel message through before the window closes?

Teenagers Teaching Children provides a meaningful way to help your teenagers communicate the gospel message to the next generation. Your teenagers will study Jesus' teaching methods, then use those same methods to teach simple gospel lessons to the upper-elementary students in your church.

Although it may not always seem like they're ready for responsibility, today's teenagers are tomorrow's teachers. The faith development of the next generation lies in their hands. These four lessons will allow your teenagers to experience firsthand the responsibilities and privileges of teaching. And as they develop teaching skills, they'll learn important lessons about themselves, their faith, and the younger generation growing up around them.

Nothing internalizes what we know better than teaching it to others. Use this course to strengthen your teenagers' faith and to help them strengthen the faith of others.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, your students will

- discover Jesus' teaching methods,
- understand why it's important to pass the gospel message on to a new generation,
- plan and teach three upper-elementary lessons from the Sermon on the Mount,
- learn childlike qualities that are important to God, and
- commit to "water" the "gospel seeds" they've sown by forming a relationship with upper-elementary students.

THIS COURSE AT A GLANCE

Before you dive into the lessons, familiarize yourself with each lesson aim. Then read the Scripture passages.

- Study them as a background to the lessons.
- Use them as a basis for your personal devotions.
- Think about how they relate to kids' circumstances today.

Lesson 1: PLANNING THE PROJECT

Lesson Aim: Students will study Jesus' teaching style and plan upper-elementary lessons using similar methods.

Bible Basis: John 16:12.

Lesson 2: WHAT CAN KIDS LEARN?

Lesson Aim: Students will discover the importance of teaching kids the good news.

Bible Basis: Psalm 78:1-7.

Lesson 3: WHAT CAN KIDS TEACH US?

Lesson Aim: Students will explore Jesus' teachings about becoming like children.

Bible Basis: Matthew 18:1-5 and 1 John 5:1-5.

Lesson 4: HARVESTING THE SEEDS

Lesson Aim: Students will reflect on their teaching experiences and discover ways to encourage kids to grow in their faith.

Bible Basis: Luke 8:4-15.

HOW TO USE THIS COURSE

PROJECTS WITH A PURPOSE™ for Youth Ministry

Think back on an important lesson you've learned in life. Did you learn it by reading about it? from hearing a lecture about it?

Chances are, the most important lessons you've learned came from something you experienced. That's what active learning is—learning by doing. And active learning is a key element in Group's new Projects With a Purpose™ for Youth Ministry courses.

Active learning leads students in doing things that help them understand important principles, messages, and ideas. It's a discovery process that helps kids internalize what they learn.

Research about active learning indicates that maximum learning results when students are involved in direct, purposeful experiences. With that in mind, each Projects With a Purpose for Youth Ministry course gives teachers tools to facilitate some sort of project which results in direct, purposeful experiences for teenagers. Projects, experiences, and immersion into real-life faith action characterize this curriculum. In fact, you could probably call this the “project” curriculum, since each course produces a tangible result. You’ll find plenty of helpful hints that’ll make this course easy for you to teach and meaningful to your students.

Projects With a Purpose for Youth Ministry takes learning to a new level—giving teenagers an opportunity to discover something significant about their faith. And kids learn the important skills of working together, sharing one another’s troubles, and supporting each other in love.

Projects With a Purpose for Youth Ministry offers a fun, alternative way for teenagers to put their faith in action. Use it today to involve your kids in Christian growth experiences they’ll remember for a lifetime.

Before the 4-Week Course

- Read the Introduction, the Course Objectives, and This Course at a Glance.

- Determine when you’ll use this course. Projects With a Purpose for Youth Ministry works well in Sunday school classes, midweek meetings, home Bible studies, youth groups, special interest groups, leadership groups, retreats, camps, or any time you want to help teenagers discover more about their faith.

- Decide how you’ll publicize the course using the clip art on the Publicity Page (p. 8). Prepare fliers, newsletter articles, and posters as needed.

- Look at the Bonus Ideas (p. 35) and decide which ones you’ll use.

Before Each Lesson

Read the opening statements, Objectives, and Bible Basis for the lesson. The Bible Basis focuses on a key biblical theme for the activity, experience, or Bible study portion of the lesson.

Gather necessary supplies from This Lesson at a Glance.

Read each section of the lesson. Adjust where necessary for your class size and meeting room.

Helpful Hints

- The approximate minutes listed give you an idea of how long each activity will take. Each lesson in a Projects With a Purpose for Youth Ministry course is designed to take about an hour. Some lessons may require work outside of class, depending on the project for the course. You might also consider

restructuring your class time, if possible, to allow more time to complete projects.

The answers given after discussion questions are responses your students *might* give. They aren't the only answers or the "right" answers. If needed, use them to spark discussion. Kids won't always say what you wish they'd say. That's why some of the responses given are negative or controversial. If someone responds negatively, don't be shocked. Accept the person and use the opportunity to explore other angles of the issue.

- If you see you're going to have extra time, do an activity or two from the "If You Still Have Time..." section at the end of each lesson, or from the Bonus Ideas (p. 35).

- Dive into the activities with the kids. Don't be a spectator. The experience will be more successful and rewarding for both you and your students when you play an active role.

- Have fun with the lessons as you lead your teenagers. Remember, it is Jesus who encourages us to become "like little children." Besides, how often do your kids get *permission* to express their childlike qualities?

- Be prepared for surprises. In Projects With a Purpose for Youth Ministry lessons, you don't always know which way the lesson will go. Much of your job will be directing kids to stay on task, rather than leading specific activities. As facilitator, you'll be helping kids make their own faith discoveries, rather than directing the results of a specific activity.

- Encourage new leaders to participate in teaching this course. Projects With a Purpose for Youth Ministry offers an exciting way to give new volunteers a hands-on look at the positive impact youth ministry can have on teenagers.

- Rely on the Holy Spirit to help you. Remember, only God can give true spiritual insight. Concentrate on your role as the facilitator and trust the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of your kids.

You Can Do It!

Because Projects With a Purpose for Youth Ministry courses are a different approach to Christian education, leading the lessons might seem a bit scary at first.

That's OK. In fact, it's normal to be a little nervous about a new teaching method. Innovation often requires a risk for the teacher. But hang in there. With the Holy Spirit's guidance and your own desire to make these lessons succeed, great things will happen in your kids' lives.

PUBLICITY PAGE

Grab your teenagers' attention! Photocopy this page, then cut out and paste the clip art of your choice in your church bulletin or newsletter to advertise this course on *Teenagers Teaching Children*. Or photocopy and use the ready-made flier as a bulletin insert. Permission to photocopy this clip art is granted for local church use.

Splash the clip art on posters, fliers, or even postcards! Just add the vital details: the date and time the course begins and where you'll meet.

It's that simple.



A 4-week project where teenagers get to teach
the good news to young believers

Come to.....

On.....

At.....

Come discover how you can make a
difference in the lives of young believers. We'll
plan and teach simple gospel lessons to upper-
elementary students.



THIS IS A SAMPLE
The number of pages is limited.

Purchase the item for the complete version.

