



# GLEANINGS FROM THE HISTORY OF YOUTH MINISTRY

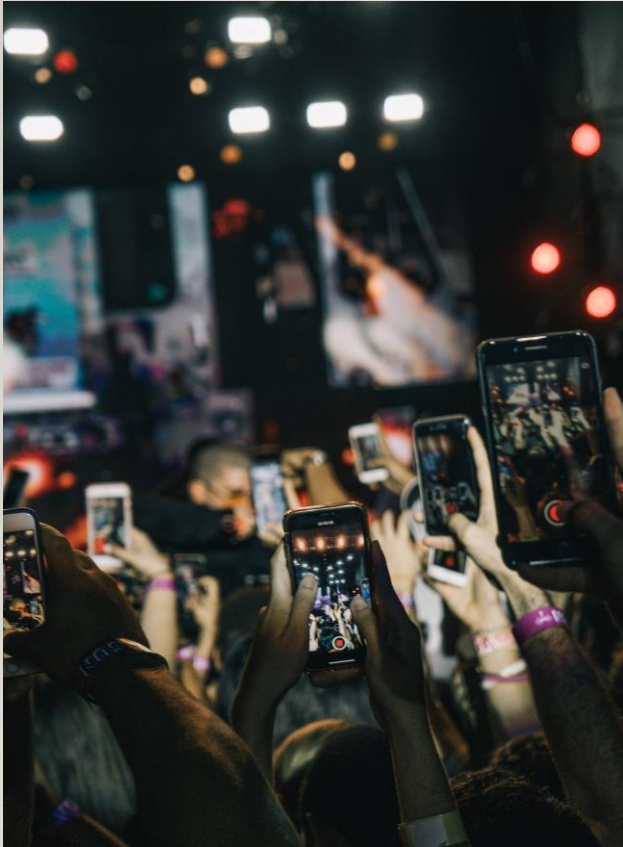
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LESSONS OF THE PAST RELEVANT  
FOR THE CHURCH TODAY



# WHY LOOK TO THE PAST? TODAY IS A NEW DAY!

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# **AN IMPORTANT FOUNDATIONAL TRUTH:**

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**God is Already at Work in the  
Lives of the Youth you  
Lead and Teach.**



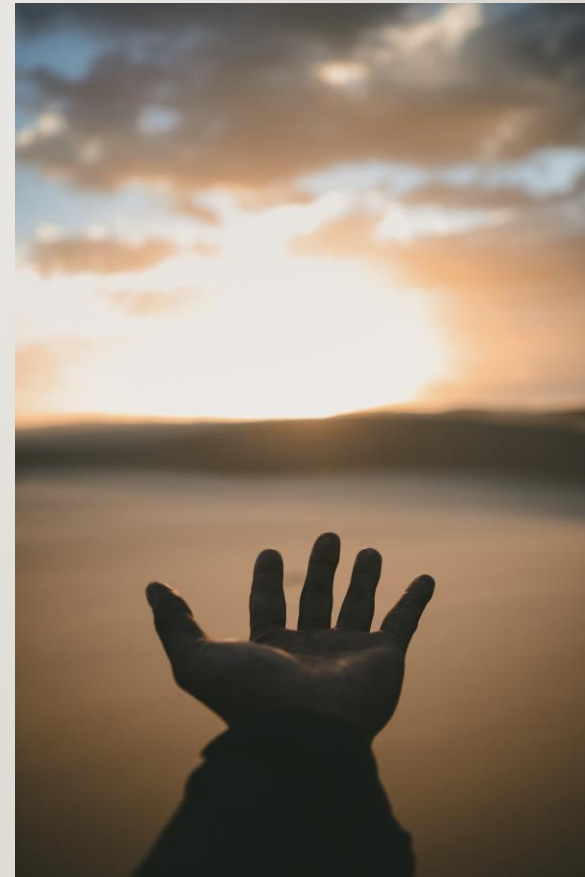
# LESSON #1: IT'S ALL ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS – IN THE MINISTRY ...

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# LESSON #1: IT'S ALL ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS – IN THE MINISTRY ... AND WITH GOD

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## Fostering an “In Christ” life:

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|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| • <b>Dead to sin in Christ</b>  | <b>Identity in Christ</b>   | <b>Comfort in Christ</b>     |
| • <b>Alive to God in Christ</b> | <b>Clothed with Christ</b>  | <b>Rejoicing in Christ</b>   |
| • <b>Triumph through Christ</b> | <b>Chosen in Christ</b>     | <b>Hope in Christ</b>        |
| • <b>Belonging to Christ</b>    | <b>Forgiven in Christ</b>   | <b>Contentment in Christ</b> |
| • <b>Justified in Christ</b>    | <b>Seated with Christ</b>   | <b>Walking in Christ</b>     |
| • <b>New Creation in Christ</b> | <b>Sanctified in Christ</b> | <b>Learning in Christ</b>    |

# **LESSON #1: IT'S ALL ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS – IN THE MINISTRY ... AND WITH GOD**

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**What does this mean for you?**

- **In your ministry efforts, how are you prioritizing relationship building with students?**
- **How are you promoting their growing relationship with God?**



# LESSON #2: PARENTS STILL MATTER

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# **LESSON #2: PARENTS STILL MATTER**

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**What does this mean for you?**

- **How are you connecting with and relating to the parents of your youth?**
- **How are you equipping, supporting, and encouraging parents in their ongoing discipleship of their children?**

# LESSON #3: MENTORS AND ROLE MODELS MATTER

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# **LESSON #3: MENTORS AND ROLE MODELS MATTER**

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**What does this mean for you?**

- **What are you looking for as you identify and recruit good mentors for your youth ministry?**
- **How are you developing and shepherding your youth leaders, encouraging their spiritual vitality and growth?**

# LESSON #4: CONGREGATIONAL INVOLVEMENT AND SERVICE MATTERS – “BEING THE CHURCH”

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# LESSON #4: CONGREGATIONAL INVOLVEMENT AND SERVICE MATTERS – “BEING THE CHURCH”



**ACTIVE MEMBERS' PLEDGE**

**TRUSTING IN THE LORD JESUS CHRIST FOR STRENGTH,**  
I PROMISE HIM THAT I WILL STRIVE TO DO WHATEVER HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ME DO;  
THAT I WILL MAKE IT THE RULE OF MY LIFE TO PRAY AND TO READ THE BIBLE EVERY DAY, AND  
TO SUPPORT MY OWN CHURCH IN EVERY WAY, ESPECIALLY BY ATTENDING ALL HER REGU-  
LAR SUNDAY AND MID-WEEK SERVICES, UNLESS PREVENTED BY SOME REASON WHICH I  
CAN CONSCIENTIOUSLY GIVE TO MY SAVIOUR, AND THAT JUST SO FAR AS I KNOW HOW,  
THROUGHOUT MY WHOLE LIFE, I WILL ENDEAVOR TO LEAD A CHRISTIAN LIFE.

**AS AN ACTIVE MEMBER**  
I PROMISE TO BE TRUE TO ALL MY DUTIES, TO BE PRESENT AT AND TO TAKE SOME PART, ASIDE  
FROM SINGING, IN EVERY CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR PRAYER MEETING, UNLESS HINDERED BY SOME  
REASON WHICH I CAN CONSCIENTIOUSLY GIVE TO MY LORD AND MASTER. IF OBLIGED TO BE  
ABSENT FROM THE MONTHLY CONSECRATION MEETING OF THE SOCIETY, I WILL, IF POSSIBLE, SEND AT  
LEAST A VERSE OF SCRIPTURE TO BE READ IN RESPONSE TO MY NAME AT THE ROLL-CALL.

Signed Thomas Edward Bair

Date March 21, 1926 Residence Pitapoco, Md.



# LESSON #4: CONGREGATIONAL INVOLVEMENT AND SERVICE MATTERS – “BEING THE CHURCH”

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## C.E. PLEDGE



“Trusting the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I endeavor to live for Him boldly and make it the practice of my life to **PRAY** and **STUDY** God’s Word daily, **SERVE** others freely, **SHARE** my faith openly, **WORSHIP** God with my church regularly and humbly lead His cause for my generation.”

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## LESSON #4: CONGREGATIONAL INVOLVEMENT AND SERVICE MATTERS – “BEING THE CHURCH”

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# **LESSON #4: CONGREGATIONAL INVOLVEMENT AND SERVICE MATTERS – “BEING THE CHURCH”**

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**What does this mean for you?**

- How are you helping your youth “be the church” today?**
- How are you helping youth be involved in the full life of the church, not just the youth group?**
- How can you multiply opportunities for ministry involvement for youth in your church?**

# LESSON #5: BOTH PEER GROUPS AND INTERGENERATIONAL EXPERIENCES MATTER

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# **LESSON #5: BOTH PEER GROUPS AND INTERGENERATIONAL EXPERIENCES MATTER**

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**What does this mean for you?**

- **When and how are youth involved in learning and growing with others in their church, not just in their youth group?**
- **How can you work with other ministry leaders in your churches to involve youth in ministries across the age groups, not just isolate them in the youth group?**



# LESSON #6: SCRIPTURE ENGAGEMENT IN A SUPPORTIVE, THINKING CLIMATE MATTERS

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**What does this mean for you?**

- Are you providing space for honest questions in a supportive environment? Do you provide opportunities to study the Scripture on issues students raise? [Note: Power of small groups]**
- How do you help youth recognize that this kind of questioning is a normal part of growing into a strong, mature faith?**
- How are you modeling your own journey of questions and how God has helped?**
- Do your youth know that they are loved deeply, whether or not they accept your teaching?**



# LESSON #7: FOSTERING PERSONAL SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES MATTERS

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# **LESSON #7: FOSTERING PERSONAL SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES MATTERS**

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**What does this mean for you?**

- **How are you modeling the value of personal spiritual disciplines?**
- **How are you encouraging, teaching about, and resourcing your youths' devotional practices?**
- **When are students encouraged to share what they are learning in their devotional times?**

# **SEVEN GLEANINGS FROM THE HISTORY OF YOUTH MINISTRY:**

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- **It's all about relationships – in ministry and with God**
- **Parents still matter**
- **Mentors and role models matter**
- **Congregational involvement and service matters – “Being the church”**
- **Both peer groups and intergenerational experiences matter**
- **Scripture engagement in a supportive, thinking climate matters**
- **Fostering personal spiritual disciplines matters**