

Making A Plan for Balanced Young Adult Ministry

Listen, Teach, Send



Young Adult Ministry Includes:

- Encountering, listening, and accompanying young adults
- The evangelization of active and inactive young adults
- Creating and nurturing active young adult disciples
- Integrating young adults into the life of the church



The Bishops have the goals for young adult ministry:

“The place to begin engaging with any youth or young adult is through intentional and patient listening and dialogue, with the goal of helping a young person recognize God at work in their lives and stories. Christ always listens to us, and the Church should always listen to youth and young adults.” - Listen, Teach, Send pg. 15

Connecting Young Adults with Jesus Christ

Connecting Young Adults with the Church

Connecting Young Adults with their identity as bold evangelizers

Connecting Young Adults with a peer community



Who Are Young Adults?

“When speaking about ‘young people’ in this framework, we are not imagining an abstract concept, group, or a data demographic; rather we have in mind the young women and men who we know or with whom we interact on a regular basis: sons and daughters, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, siblings, and cousins within our families, as well as friends, colleagues, co-workers, neighbors, and all the young people we meet in our daily routines. Each of them has a unique name, face, and identity: beloved by God and integral to the mission of the Church. Just as Jesus drew near to the disciples on the road, may we also draw near to them and, in imitation of Christ and by the grace of God, faithfully listen, teach, and send them forth on the journey ahead.” - Listen, Teach, Send pg. 14



Who Are Young Adults?

Encompass Millennials and Gen Z (ages 18-39)
Those unaffiliated with any church, the “nones”
Those starting adulthood
Singles
Couples
Couples and single parents with kids



Where Are Young Adults?

- **Online:** It's the primary way to connect for many young adults with friends and build lasting relationships.
- **Work (or Campus):** Young adults are overworked, overwhelmed, and overcommitted, so chances are, on Sunday mornings, they are either working overtime, studying, or taking a much-needed rest.
- **With Friends and Family:** Young adults crave community.
- **Praying:** Surprisingly, even though young adults are going to church less often, studies show that many do strive for a spiritual life – through personal prayer, meditation and exercise, among other spiritual disciplines.



What have you learned from your SWOT process?

- What surprised you?
- What will be the quickest/easiest/most economical things to do?
- What are the most important ideas that came up in the process?
- What do you most want to address first?
- What do you want to make a long-term goal?
- Draw conclusions, ideas, and questions, make a list of them.



Interests & Needs of Young Adults

- Who are the young adults in your community?
- What they are interested in?
- What do they need?
- What kind of time do they have?
- What are you able to provide?



Interests & Needs of Young Adults

Consider what issues the young adults in your area are facing. They may be leaving for college, graduating from college and looking for jobs, getting married, getting divorced, or caring for children or aging parents. Brainstorm a list of issues you have observed or know are typical for young adults. Some issues will be specific to an age group or subset, while others will be universal – go ahead and identify them as such.



Next Steps

- Listen to your young adults
- Identify and empower leaders
- Choose your priorities together with your young adults
- Set your goals with your young adult leaders
- Make your calendar

