

ANGLICAN YOUTH MINISTRIES

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TAKE THE LEAD

leaders
have i's

LEADERS GUIDE

introduction

Welcome to “Take the Lead: Leaders have i’s”. This resource has been designed to introduce teenagers to the heart of Christian leadership. The four ‘i’s are: Influence, Integrity, Initiative and Imagination. This ‘Course Leader’s Guide’ contains outlines for each module, along with the recommended group activities and individual and group questions. In the CD attached to the back of this booklet you will find a soft copy of the participants workbook for you to reproduce along with the PowerPoint slides for this teaching guide. The words in CAPITALS in this guide and the PowerPoint slides are the ‘missing words’ in the participants workbook.

Each module has been designed take approximately 30 minutes, depending on how much time you give to group discussion. You can either do all four sessions as a leadership training day or do one module at a time in your normal youth group time or before your leaders meeting.

I hope you and your group will find this material helpful as you seek to turn their leadership potential into reality!

Dion Fasi, AYM Youth Ministry Consultant, Auckland

PREPARING FOR THE COURSE

- » Think about who you will invite to do the course. Is it for your volunteer leaders? Is it for potential leaders within your youth group? Both? You may want to run it broadly and advertise it for anyone who wants to come, or you may want to personally invite people instead.
- » In the lead up to the course/retreat commit yourself to praying that God will use it to grow the gift of leadership around you. Find others in your church who will agree to pray for you and the participants throughout the course and give them regular updates and prayer needs.
- » Plan ways to highlight the course and its participants to the rest of the church. You could inform them about it before you run it, give updates during it, take heaps of photos and put them in the newsletter or on your church Facebook page. After the course has finished you might like to present the participants with certificates during a Sunday Service and invite them to give testimonies about it.

MORE COMING SOON IN THE ‘TAKE THE LEAD’ SERIES:

LEADERS NEED TO P: Leaders Need to Pray, Prepare, Persevere & Play
LEADERS CAN C: Leaders Can Collaborate, Communicate, Coordinate & Celebrate

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1

leaders have influence

What you need for this session:

- » Projector with computer/laptop
- » Workbooks and pens
- » Game items: blindfolds, smelly things (see below)

SLIDE 2: LEADERS HAVE INFLUENCE



*This session is called 'Leaders Have Influence'.
What do you understand influence to be?*

SLIDE 3: THE DICTIONARY DEFINES INFLUENCE AS:

The dictionary defines influence as:

- 1: the POWER to cause CHANGES without directly FORCING them to happen.
- 2: a person or thing that AFFECTS someone or something in an IMPORTANT way.

Leaders are people who INSPIRE people to move in a certain direction.



What causes a person to have influence?

SLIDE 4

Influence doesn't come AUTOMATICALLY when you are given a job or a title. In fact sometimes in a group a person without the title will have more influence on the others than the person who does have the title. This is because influence is different to AUTHORITY in that people are following your EXAMPLE because they want to be like you, rather than obeying your commands because they have to.

All of us have some kind of influence on others. Some will have greater influence than others at certain times or in certain settings. What's most important is not how much influence we have, but what kind of influence we have. For example, Hitler was a man of great influence, but he used it to lead a nation to do some of the most terrible things imaginable. As Christian leaders we want to influence people in a Godly way. So for us, influence is first and foremost about being a ROLE MODEL.



WORKBOOK QUESTIONS:

Who has had a positive influence on you? What about them inspired you to follow their example?

Identify where you have influence. Are there specific individuals that look up to you? Are there some groups or settings where you feel you have more influence than you do elsewhere?



Blindfold someone and get them to smell a selection of things and see if they can identify what each thing is.

Possible items: smelly sock, flower, raw onion, coffee beans, cinnamon.



WORKBOOK QUESTION:

In 2 Corinthians 2:15 Paul calls us ‘the aroma of Christ’. As a leader you bring a ‘smell’ with you - you influence the atmosphere through your words, attitudes and actions. What kind of ‘smell’ do you think you bring to youth group i.e. what effect do you have on the atmosphere of your youth group?



Get them to decide whether the following examples would be a good influence, bad influence, or neutral (ask for a show of hands). Then ask why they think that is action would be a good influence ie what message do they think that action is communicating to others:

- » Doing a little burnout in the church car park
- » Posting a link on Facebook to an Eminem song that contains heaps of swearing
- » Bringing your own Bible to youth group each week
- » Being the first one to volunteer when someone asks for help
- » Sitting at the front of the church on Sunday
- » Texting while the youth pastor is giving his or her message
- » Raising your hands during worship
- » Remembering people’s names
- » Using mocking humour

Bringing a good smell to youth group often requires a choice, because sometimes you really won’t feel like it. For example, let’s say you get stuck in traffic on the way home from work, or you have to come straight from rugby training, so you don’t get an opportunity to have dinner before you’re due to be at the church - you’ll likely be feeling a bit tired, hungry, and generally grumpy. Whatever the circumstances, it is a fact of leadership that sometimes you will really wish you were doing something else.

It is in these times that you need to remember the responsibility of influence and make sure you choose to be a good smell and not a bad one.

SLIDE 5

You will need to CHOOSE your words, attitudes and actions carefully. There is nothing worse than a bad smelling leader!



WORKBOOK QUESTION:

Imagine that it is 20 years in the future. Now imagine that one of the kids from your old youth group (i.e. the one you're in now) is writing a letter to you, thanking you for being such a good influence on them all those years ago, and telling you of the impact you had on their life. What qualities/characteristics would you want people to be able to say about you in that scenario? Have a go at writing the letter you would want to receive.



As a group, decide on a Code of Conduct for how you should behave at youth group. (Don't try and create 101 commandments but think about the general principles of behaviour, speech, and attitudes you think leaders should adhere to at youth group).

SLIDE 6

***Leadership is about the example you're giving,
not the title you're given.***

2

leaders have integrity

What you need for this session:

- » Projector with computer/laptop
- » Workbooks, pens and Bibles
- » Game items: tin of baked beans, tin of fruit salad (see below), two bowls, two spoons, two tin openers

SLIDE 7: LEADERS HAVE INTEGRITY



Preparation: Buy one tin of baked beans and one tin of fruit salad (they need to be the same sized tin). Carefully remove the paper packaging from each tin so it comes off in one piece (you should be able to take it off with a craft knife and using a blow dryer to soften the glue). Then glue/tape the wrapping on to the other tin ie so the tin of baked beans now looks like it is a tin of fruit salad and vice versa. You will also need two bowls, two dessert spoons, and two tin openers.

Tell the group you're going to start with a game. It is for two people and the challenge is to see who can finish a bowl of ice cream first. Ask for two volunteers. Then inform them there is a twist - one bowl of ice cream will have fruit salad on top and the other will have baked beans. To see who gets which, have the two volunteers do rock/paper/scissors and allow the winner to choose a tin. Get them seated with a bowl of ice cream in front of each person. Tell them that when you say "go" they are to open their tin and add five (or whatever number you decide) spoonful's of what's in the tin to their ice cream and then eat.

Imagine how annoying it would be if the food you bought was completely different to what the packaging said it was. Integrity is about being the same on the inside as you are on the outside. It can be common for leaders to act 'righteously' in front of those they're leading but then act very differently behind closed doors or at home with their family or amongst close friends. So if influence is about your public behaviour, integrity includes your private behaviour.

SLIDE 8

Integrity is about being a leader who PRACTICES what they PREACH. It's about being AUTHENTIC and of good CHARACTER. For Christian leadership this requires being a DISCIPLE OF JESUS first and a LEADER OF PEOPLE second.

SLIDE 9: INTEGRITY IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ABILITY



Discuss this statement: Integrity is more important than ability.



WORKBOOK QUESTION:

Read Matthew 23:1-7, 25-28. Why was Jesus critical of the Pharisees?

Who is someone you look up to? How would you feel if you found out something really bad was going on?

SLIDE 10

When leaders 'fall' it can be hugely DAMAGING for the people they are leading. However it's important to realize that integrity doesn't mean INFALLIBILITY. We should always pursue a high standard but no one is IMMUNE from making mistakes. Even the greatest leader will at times disappoint us and we need to be careful that we don't expect them or ourselves to be perfect. But if they do stuff up, good leaders are prepared to take responsibility for their mistakes. They have the humility to admit they were in the wrong. They seek to make restitution for any damage they have done and they are willingly to accept the consequences of their actions. If we handle our failures well, God can then take our MESS and turn it into a MESSAGE.



WORKBOOK QUESTION:

List the different 'settings' in your life outside of church/youth group: E.g. home, work, school, friends, sports, social media. Can you identify any areas in each of those settings where you need to act with more integrity?



Adding on to the 'Code of Conduct' you came up with in 'Session 1: Leaders Have Influence', what rules regarding personal behaviour outside of youth group do you think people should have to agree to before becoming a youth leader? (For example, a lot of youth ministries have rules for their leaders regarding things such as drug/alcohol consumption, sexual relationships, church attendance.) Discuss also what you think should happen if someone breaks these rules.

SLIDE 11

***Integrity is best seen in what you do
when you think no one is looking.***

3

leaders have initiative

What you need for this session:

- » Projector with computer/laptop and speakers
- » Workbooks, pens and Bibles

SLIDE 12: LEADERS HAVE INITIATIVE

Before they arrive for this session, provide a few opportunities in the room for members of the group to take initiative. For example you could have some orange peels on the floor or a chair fallen on its side.



WORKBOOK QUESTION:

This session is called 'Leaders Have Initiative'. What do you understand initiative to be?

PLAY VIDEO CLIP: LEADERSHIP LESSONS FROM DANCING GUY
youtu.be/GA8z7f7a2Pk

SLIDE 13

This video gives us a picture of initiative. Initiative is about doing something before there is a crowd. Leaders are STARTERS. They don't just follow the crowd, they are PROACTIVE.

Initiative is about seeing what needs to be done and then ACTING accordingly.

Mention the orange peels/chair on its side etc. If anyone did something about it, commend them on having initiative. If no one did anything then ask if any of them noticed it. If they did notice it, ask them what stopped them from doing anything about it.



WORKBOOK QUESTION:

Tick which of the following things you are good at taking the initiative to do:

- » *I often start setting up the chairs/table tennis/Xbox/supper without being asked*
- » *I notice mess/rubbish/spilt drinks etc and clean them up*
- » *When there are newcomers I try and make sure they are included in conversations, games etc*
- » *If I see someone sitting by themselves I go and sit with them*

continued over page

- » *When I see something dangerous happening I stop it from continuing*
- » *I often ask my youth pastor what I can do to help*
- » *When nothing is happening I try and start some kind of impromptu game*
- » *I notice when people don't come to youth group and I contact them to let them know they were missed.*

What stops you from taking initiative more often?

SLIDE 14

Leaders take initiative both in the small things and the big things. Leaders don't expect everything to just happen, therefore they STEP OUT and give things a go.



Read 2 Thessalonians 1:11:

“God chose you, and we keep praying that God will make you worthy of being his people. We pray for God's power to help you do all the good things that you hope to do and that your faith makes you want to do.”

How does this verse encourage us?

Godly leaders seek the Lord for guidance and direction, but at the same time they aren't afraid to run with their own ideas. This is because God doesn't always tell us exactly what he wants us to do...sometimes he stays silent to give us the opportunity to exercise initiative. He then adds his wisdom and blessing after we've started.



Think about the 'gaps' in your youth group. What isn't happening? Looking at some of those gaps...what are you are going to do about it? (Think practical and focus on what you are going to do...not what you think the youth pastor should do). Present your idea to the group.

SLIDE 15

***Leaders don't need to be asked...
leaders ask what is needed.***

4

leaders have imagination

What you need for this session:

- » Projector with computer/laptop and speakers
- » Workbooks and pens
- » Activity items: large sheet of paper and paper leaves (see below), felt pens, glue, other art materials such as paint, glitter etc.

SLIDE 16: LEADERS HAVE IMAGINATION

SLIDE 17

Leaders are DREAMERS. They don't just look at how things are at the moment, rather they imagine how things could be and they work towards that. They are not restricted by REALITY, instead they predict POSSIBILITY. Leaders think outside the box - they are not satisfied with the status quo. They have a picture on the inside that keeps them going when things don't look so good on the outside.



WORKBOOK QUESTION:

Do you have any dreams for your life?

PLAY VIDEO CLIP: MARTIN LUTHER KING JR "I HAVE A DREAM"
youtu.be/3vDWWy4CMhE



What do you like about this speech?

Martin Luther King Jr was faced with the reality of racism and injustice. But he saw through that to what could be - a united America free from prejudice.

SLIDE 18

Imagination gives us the MOTIVATION to pursue what could happen. Without it we accept things as they are and we don't expect situations or people to change.



WORKBOOK QUESTION:

Think about someone in your youth group who maybe at the moment doesn't look like they're really that interested in following Jesus, or maybe they are following Jesus but they're struggling with a lot of issues. Alternatively it could be someone in your youth group, or someone at school/work or at home. Now imagine what it might look like if they were radically transformed. What do you see?

SLIDE 19

Imagination has two enemies: DISAPPOINTMENT (or the fear of disappointment) and COMPLACENCY. Disappointment stops us from dreaming because we don't want to get our hopes up. Complacency stops us from dreaming because we think things are already good enough.



Preparation - Cut out a good number of leaf shapes from coloured paper.

On the large sheet of paper have someone draw a tree with branches but no leaves. Give them the paper leaves you've cut out and invite them to write on them their hopes and dreams for their youth group and glue them onto the branches of the tree drawing. They can also draw/paint around the tree anything else that might be symbolic of what they hope for (e.g. a river representing the Holy Spirit). Then as a group spend some time praying that God would turn those dreams into reality.

SLIDE 20

***Leaders are visionaries.
They look at deserts and see oceans.***

bible reading guide

We have prepared four short bible studies for each on of the 'i's. They can be used in a myriad of ways: you could use one of them as an introduction to your teaching session or you could suggest your young leaders do them during the week after your teaching session or between sessions. They can also be used as examples of the attribute you're teaching or be incorporated into your prayer time together.

1. influence

2 SAMUEL 21:15-22

David was a man of great courage and faith, famously defeating a giant at a young age. In this passage we see that those who followed him also became people of great courage and faith, defeating four of Goliath's giant relatives!

Who do you look up to as an example of courage and faith?

What have they done/what are they doing now that you want to do?

EXODUS 33:7-11

Moses' worship stirred up the whole community to worship. His friendship with God inspired Joshua to seek after the same.

Who do you look up to as having a close relationship with God?

What could you do in your worship to inspire others to seek God with all their hearts?

JOHN 13:1-17

Jesus washed his disciples' feet as an example to them of a servant-hearted leader.

Who do you look up to as someone who leads with humility and puts others first?

In what ways could you do the same?

2 TIMOTHY 1:5

Timothy received a faith that had been passed down from his grandmother Lois to his mother Eunice to him.

Spend some time thanking God for the 'Lois's and 'Eunice's he has put in your life - those family members, church members, friends, authors or preachers etc who have influenced you in your faith journey.

Now identify the 'Timothy's in your life - those people who you have influence with and are helping in their growth. Thank God for putting them in your life too, and spend some time praying for them.

2. integrity

2 SAMUEL 11:1-27

King David impregnates a married woman named Bathsheba. He attempts to cover-up the pregnancy by having Bathsheba's husband sleep with her, but her husband refuses to do so. David has the husband killed and takes Bathsheba as his own wife.

Note the different decisions David made that lacked integrity. At each step think about what he should have done differently.

GENESIS 39:1-23

In contrast to David's actions, Joseph displayed great integrity when his boss' wife wanted to 'sleep with him', even though it meant he wound up in prison.

How did Joseph handle the situation he found himself in?

Why do you think the Lord was pleased with him?

MATTHEW 4:1-11

Jesus used Scripture to resist the devil's temptations. If Jesus needed Scripture then maybe we do too?

Think about the areas in your own life where you need to act with more integrity, and find a bible verse/passage that challenges or encourages you in that area. Try using a bible concordance or just do a google search (e.g. 'bible verses about honesty', 'bible verses about laziness').

EPHESIANS 4:17-32

In this letter to the Ephesians, Paul describes what it looks like to live as 'Children of the Light'.

Is there anything in this passage that challenges you? Spend some time praying that God would help you lead with integrity.

3. initiative

1 CHRONICLES 17:1-15

David had the idea to build a temple for God. God sent a message basically saying that he had never asked for it, but he would be pleased to make David's idea a reality. He then added his wisdom and guidance telling him that it would actually be his son (Solomon) who would build the temple. But what it highlights is that God was pleased to bless David's initiative.

What's one thing you could take the initiative to do at your church this Sunday?

1 SAMUEL 25:2-35

Abigail saw that her husband had put their whole household and village in a serious situation. She acted quickly and ended up saving her family from destruction, as well as stopping David from doing something that may have displeased God. Often taking the initiative in a situation requires you to act quickly as there may be a limited amount of time before the opportunity passes.

Ask God to show you any situations where you might need to do something now before it is too late.

JOHN 4:1-26

Jesus was tired and thirsty yet he saw an opportunity to connect with someone. He ended up prophesying to her and she believed in him as the Messiah. She then told her whole village and they too put their faith in Jesus.

Think about the last week or day. Can you see any times where you might have missed opportunities to connect with people and maybe even share your faith with them? Pray that God would give you open eyes to see opportunities and courage to take them.

2 THESSALONIANS 1:11-12

Pray this passage as a prayer for yourself and for those in your youth group.

4. imagination

PSALM 22

In this Psalm David cries out with anguish and sorrow as he is persecuted by people who hate him. Yet he finishes the Psalm with this vision of salvation and redemption and the whole world coming to worship God.

What struggles are you facing at the moment? What outcomes are you believing him for? Write your own Psalm... a prayer pouring out your struggles to God but then declaring your hopes and dreams.

NUMBERS 13:26-33

Moses sent 12 men to “spy out the land” that God had promised the Israelites. Ten spies returned frightened by the fortified cities and the giants that lived in them. Two spies, Joshua and Caleb, returned with a different view. They only saw the possibilities of possessing the land as they had complete trust in God to help them succeed. They knew that God was with them and therefore considered their enemies already defeated.

What giants are you facing at the moment? Use your imagination to see if you can turn some of your problems into possibilities.

MATTHEW 28:16-20


Jesus took the disciples up the mountain to commission them so that they could see more than just their own family and town... he wanted to give them a vision for ‘all nations’.

Spend some time praying that people would hear the gospel, beginning with your immediate location and then widening the circle e.g. pray for your family, then your class, your school, your community, your city, your nation, and the world. Be open to the Holy Spirit putting a dream in your heart for where he might take you in the future!

EPHESIANS 3:20-21

No matter what you imagine... God can do even greater things!

Memorize this passage and dream with God!



Do you want to turn the leadership potential you see in your teenagers into reality?

Are you keen to show your existing young leaders what a difference following Jesus makes to how they lead?

Are you looking for leadership training that is straightforward, grounded in scripture, adaptable and fun?

This deceptively simple guide is the distilled wisdom of thousands of youth ministry hours. Focusing on the heart of leadership, 'Take the Lead' is a great place to start your teenagers on their 'leadership journey'.

In this training resource we focus on the four 'i's of leadership: "Influence, Integrity, Initiative and Imagination". The Leaders Guide and Participants Workbook contain everything you need to run your own leadership training. Recognising that teenagers learn best when they are having fun, each module contains discussion questions, hands on activities, PowerPoint images, video clips and a Bible reading guide. Teenagers are encouraged to 'have a go' and get started on their leadership journey whether they hold a leadership role or not.

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EQUIPPING ANGLICAN CHURCHES TO MINISTER TO TEENAGERS

Anglican Youth Ministries (AYM) facilitates youth ministry in the Anglican Diocese of Auckland. We offer parishes support, training and resources, as well as combined youth group events and camps.

To find out more about how we can support youth ministry in your church, contact us on 09 3027261 or admin@aym.org.nz

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