CBA1 SERVANT LEADERSHIP TRAINING · OCTOBER 5, 2026

Effective Ministry to the Next Generation

Youth & Young Adult Training · **Fill in the blanks as we go**

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THE GROUNDING ASSERTION

If we can successfully and consistently identify their _____ and provide _____ and _____ that speaks clearly to them, we can provide _____ to emerging generations through our churches.

Reality Check *You are probably NOT doing as bad as you think you are…*

____ – ____ %
typical annual attrition (Nick Blevins)

_____ %
of pre-pandemic attendance (Lifeway)

____ in 10
adults attend regularly (Gallup, 2024)

____ / ____
avg / median weekly attendance (ChurchTrac)

Barna: the group attending at the highest rate post-pandemic is _____, driven by _____ Millennials. Why? Midlife crisis / crisis of _____, and raising _____ + the familiarity of _____.

Recurring Pain Points *From surveys & interviews with ~550 students, ages 11–24*

Middle & High School

- _____ – self-image, body, gender, sexuality
- **Stress & anxiety** – success, the future, the world
- _____ – bullied or unsafe (even at church)
- **Rejection · Self-harm and depression**
- _____ problems – unsafe to talk with parents

College & Young Adults

- **Self-worth** – "I'm not _____"
- **Clarity in** _____ – "What is God calling me to?"
- **Crisis of** _____ – "What do I really believe?"
- _____ – career, work, internships
- **Depression, anxiety, identity, rejection, abuse**

Theological & Biblical Considerations

A Common Story: Anxiety, Stress & Suicide

Use narratives to _____ the people of the text and find _____ in their stories. Try: _____ (1 Kings 19); Jesus in the _____.

Embrace the _____: Identity

Acknowledge (if not affirm) _____ and _____ while uplifting biblical truth. Situate everyone in _____.

Practical Considerations

1 Create Usable _____

Poll, survey, safe small groups. Embrace _____. _____ and consistency are key.

Don't _____ **–** _____.

2 Community as _____

Grow engagement through _____. Seek the _____ and overlooked.

Not just photo ops – _____.

3 Intentional _____

Invest in students you have _____: spiritual growth, financial needs, and continuing _____.

They'll _____ **in you.**

ONE STEP I WILL TAKE IN THE NEXT 30 DAYS: _____

NEW RESOURCE
Bread for Life – a 31-day devotional for young people ready to get busy living

passiontopublication.com
joshualmitchell.org