

Creating a Vision

Think about your parish and begin making your own assessment on where you are at and where you want to go in each of these areas. First, think about what (if anything) is already taking place in your parish and whether or not it is working. Next, write down a few names of individuals who you already have identified as falling in to the corresponding stages. Finally, begin to think about the general vision (not specific events or programs) that you hope for from the parish in the future for each stage.

Pre-Evangelization

What initial efforts are currently being offered that establishes community for youth and get's them involved in a basic way with church?

Individuals who fall in this stage -Teens who are not active in faith but participate in youth social and community events (Ex. CYO volleyball team)

What are your hopes in meeting social and community needs?

Evangelization and Catechesis

How are youth in your parish currently evangelized and catechized?
Do events/methods that are used seem to be working?

Individuals who fall in this Stage - Teens who are **interested and active** in learning more about the faith

What are your hopes for teens knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith?

Prayer and Spirituality

What opportunities are offered for teens to have a deep authentic encounter with Jesus Christ?

Individuals who fall in this stage - Teens who have a desire to have an authentic relationship with Jesus through prayer

What are your hopes in meeting the spiritual needs of teens?

Discipleship

What opportunities exist for teenagers be disciples and be an active part of the parish community ?

Individuals who fall in this stage - Teens who have a relationship with Christ and desire to witness the gospel, be a Christian leader among peers, and are active in the parish community

How would you like to see teens as disciples of Jesus Christ?

Session 1 Goals

1. **Begin making your own personal assessment of your parish by using the "Creating a Vision" worksheet**

2. **Write a basic vision for youth ministry in your parish**

Write a basic vision for your own hopes for youth ministry in your parish. This should only be a few sentences that includes your general hopes for the parish accompanying teenagers through each of the 4 stages. This should not include specific events or programs that you hope to run. You can use the space below if you'd like.



3. **Set up a meeting with your pastor to discuss the following:**

- **Discuss the 4 stages of discipleship to teens** - Get his input on how or if the parish is providing opportunities in each of these stages and if there are any teenagers that may already fall into each of the stages.
- **Discuss the Youth Ministry vision** - Share your vision of youth ministry and ask him what his vision is and how it falls into the vision of the parish as a whole.
- **Set up a weekend to speak at the Masses** - Ask the pastor if you can have 3-5 min to speak at all of the parish Masses on a select weekend. This opportunity will be a chance to present the basic vision to the parish as well as begin the assessment process to discover the needs and vision of the parish community as a whole. Make sure to schedule a weekend that occurs AFTER Session 2. We will be covering this presentation in more detail at that session.