

Youth Report

Being in the Youth Ministry for many years, I have seen a trend that is starting to raise some fundamental questions about our youth ministry. Are we doing all we can to reach the young people? Are we truly being patient with them or being tolerant of them? Are we loving on them or are we just dealing with them? Are we doing what is truly called upon us as ministers to teach our youth? For generations, we have seen our youth being raised up in devout Christian homes, and parents that are truly invested in their Christian education and the foundation of their faith. Now today, the parents are just as less interested in church and what it takes to be a Christian as the kids are. This is a big problem when the minister is trying to show the kids how important their walk with Christ is, when their own parents do not even show it. Today's Youth Minister must be more diverse in their reach to a teen, with the pandemic and the way society has taken a turn, not for the better, and everything that is done is looked at under a microscope. It was no different during Jesus's time when he was here on earth. Jesus was watched like a hawk while on earth. They were waiting for him to make a mistake. Today, teens are so confused on who they are, where they belong, what they are, and where they are going, and society is just making their lives hard and more confusing. Our job as ministers is to show them the truth and give the answers they are seeking. Showing them the love of Christ and what he did on the Cross is just the start. We do not need to preach to them the law of their sins, but that Jesus forgives all not matter who they are or what they think they are. Jesus loves them no matter what. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life - we always need to hear it again and again. We should always want to tell it again and again.

Respectfully submitted

Chris Cates Youth Minister – Nevill's Chapel BC