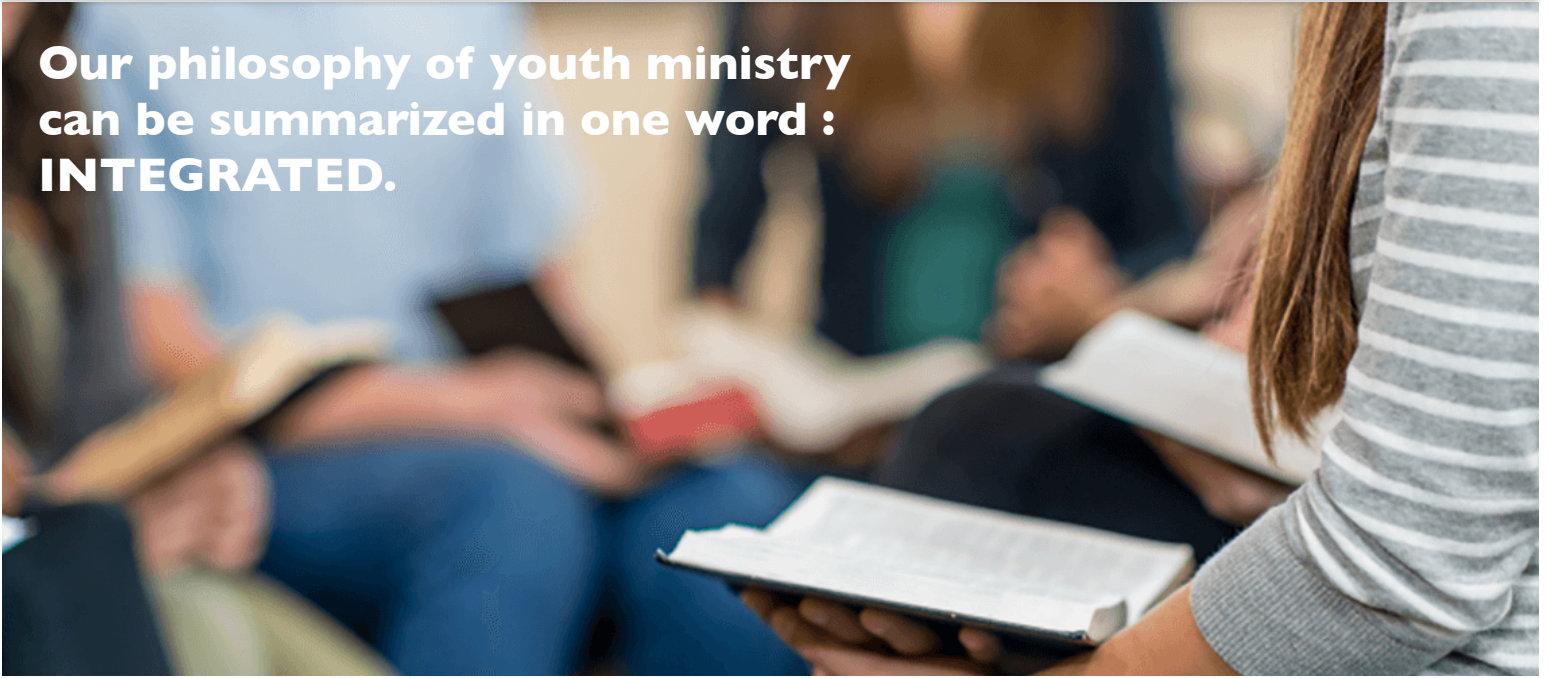


Youth Ministry - Grades 7-12

Our philosophy of youth ministry can be summarized in one word : INTEGRATED.



We don't want our youth to see themselves first as part of a youth ministry ... but first as part of the people of God : The Church

We work hard at giving a young person a perspective of what it means to be a meaningful part of a church family. We want them in our corporate worship gatherings and expect them to participate in our weekly Life Groups with their families. We want them to know the children in our church and the aging widows and everyone in between. Given that, our youth ministry does not seek to give our youth a smorgasbord of activities. We don't even attempt to "keep them busy" and shielded from whatever else they might get into if they're not busy with church activities. Our ultimate goal is for students to graduate from high school and adhere to life in the church. We don't want their youth experience to be so spectacular that they don't know how to not be a youth and still part of the people of God. The pursuit of fun can become intoxicating so much so that they don't know how to fit into the church family when the fun is over. We want to give them a healthy view of worship, faith and life together with the church so the transition after high school to college or work will be natural.

We consider it our top priority to teach them God's Word.

While we want them integrated, we do work at providing meaningful youth activities. We teach them the bible on Sunday morning every week and on Wednesday nights during the school year. While we do have some funny stories from time to time, this is primarily a time to unpack and expose God's word helping them to see all that we have in Christ. We work at helping them apply what they've heard as they go about their week at school and at home.

We know how to have fun!

We also plan activities that will help our students connect to one another and build relationships with others in the youth group. We look for opportunities to serve our church body, our community, and the nations. We celebrate milestones during the year. During the summer, our Wednesday nights are focused on having lots of fun and growing closer to one another. We also plan a major summer activity like Super Summer or Youth Camp. Students who are able to mobilize the financial support are also encouraged to participate in an iGoGlobal event like Launch Box Local Missions or an international mission trip.