

How to Unite, Equip, and Resource Youth Ministry Leaders

What are the needs of youth ministry leaders and how can these needs be addressed? How can we create networks to equip and encourage youth ministry leaders, school ministers, organisations, and church pastors? This workshop will explore how to unite, train, and equip youth ministry leaders.

Áron Ablonczy is a pastor in Diósd, leader of the Youth Builders and Head of the Youth Department of the Reformed Church in Hungary. He has been serving with young people since 2010. He believes that the young generation is lovable and full of good insights and hunger for the gospel. He loves encouraging others, discovering gifts, and helping others to discover them. He likes to network and organize because that's where he learns the most and sees that he is not alone. He is passionate about experimenting, researching, listening to others and serving young people. Áron is husband to a super wife and dad to very dear Berta, Ilka and Lili.

Why do we need to equip, unite and resource YM leaders?

- Teenagers are the most active practitioners of religion, while twenty-somethings are the least active
- 23% felt that the Bible is not taught clearly or enough in their churches.
- Another major cause of apostasy is the lack of biblical literacy,
- 65% of our churches have no youth work!

How did they Unite, Equip, and Resource in the Bible?

- Eph 4:11-13
- 2 Tim 3:15b-17

Why does it not work so simply today?

- What drives our youth ministry?
- The biggest barriers

How to (not) unite, equip, and resource YM leaders?

- My story
- My challenges, failures in leading,
- Some of the things that went right

5 most important questions in equipping and resourcing?

- For whom?
- Why?
- How?
- Who?
- What ?

How can you start or continue?

- What are the similarities between local and regional?
- The correct order (needs, calling, skills)

Some further readings

- Cameron Cole, Jon Nielson: *Gospel Centered Youth Ministry* (Crossway – The Gospel Coalition)
- Kara Powell, Jake Mulder and Brad Griffin: *Growing Young* (BakerBooks)
- Andrew Root and Kendra Creasy Dean: *The Theological Turn in Youth Ministry* (IVP Books)