

Discipling and Developing the Next Generation of Leaders

How we raise a future generation of disciple-making leaders is of urgent importance for the church in Europe today. Through this session, we will consider important principles for helping young people grow towards spiritual maturity as well as explore helpful practices for empowering young leaders.

Kristy Williams has 16 years of experience as a full-time missionary in the context of youth ministry and leadership training. She has been serving primarily in Ukraine, though her love for training youth leaders leads her to different opportunities in Central and Eastern Europe with her missionary organisation, Josiah Venture. Kristy is passionate about disciple-making and teaching leadership principles to youth leaders. She also develops materials that help local churches build relationships with the teenagers and teachers in their neighborhood schools. Kristy and her husband, Ben, live in Lviv, Ukraine with their two school-aged children. She holds a Bachelor's of Science in Finance, a Master's of Business Administration, an MA in Global Leadership, and is currently working on a PhD in Organisational Leadership.

1. Preparation of a Young Leader

- a. Looking to Jesus, our model for life and ministry: How did He make disciples?
- b. Character, calling, Holy Spirit power
- c. Understanding the end goal: multiplication of disciples and the "Why?"

Anyone who believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and will do greater works than what I have done." John 14:12

2. Five Challenges of Christ

- a. Understanding the path from unbelief to maturity in Christ

1 2 3 4 5

- b. Helping youth walk through this path

3. Creating a Top Five List

- a. Walking another along the path from unbelief to maturity in Christ

4. Handing Over the Keys to the Kingdom: a Look at Empowerment

- a. Modeling (I do, you watch. We do it together. You do, I watch. You do it alone) and feedback
- b. Implement faster discipling practices because of trust in the Holy Spirit power

- c. Let them lead small groups and prepare their own devotions, Bible lessons, study material
- d. Offer one-on-one mentoring from a young age
- e. Identify gifting and leadership potential
- f. Grace and psychological safety when they fail (and they will)

5. Understanding Key Developmental Milestones of Ages 13-25

- a. Developmental stages and the brain
- b. Opportunities growing; anxiety growing
- c. Answering the questions: Who am I? Where do I belong? What is my purpose?