# THE YOUTH SEMINAR ARTICLE

## Sermon For The Youth

### The Gospel

One of the best parts about youth ministry is that you get to engage with many youths who have not yet placed their faith in Jesus Christ. By regularly preaching about the good news of the gospel, many youths are guided to faith in Christ while also encouraging those who already are believers. **Romans 1:16 ("For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.")**

1. **The Gift of Salvation -** The youths need to understand the gift of salvation. Evangelists and other church leaders have the opportunity to share with them the good news of Jesus and how He died for our sins so that they may have eternal life. It's important to emphasize that this gift is freely received by faith and cannot be earned by our own efforts. **Ephesians 2:8-9 ("For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast.")**
2. **Who Is God? -** Youths need know who God is or what He is like. There is need to explore the attributes of God and the many different facets of His character. **Colossians 1:17 ("He is before all things, and in him, all things hold together.")**
3. **Finding Identity in Christ -** The teenage/youth years are full of challenges as they try to figure out who they are and where they fit in. Youths should understand that their true identity comes from being a follower of Christ, rather than conforming to the world's standards. **Ephesians 2:10 ("For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.")**
4. **Spiritual Disciplines –** By **e**ncouraging youth to develop spiritual disciplines such as prayer, Bible reading, and fasting can help them grow in their relationship with God. This explores the importance of these disciplines and how they can lead to a deeper understanding of God's Word and His will for their lives. **Matthew 6:6 ("But when you pray, go into your room, close the door, and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.")**

5. **The Power of Prayer -** A prayer can be especially hard for teenagers. They often have a hard time focusing and may think prayer is a waste of time. By speaking on the power of prayer, you can encourage teenagers to pursue God and communicate with Him on a consistent basis. **Philippians 4:6 ("Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.")**
6. **Standing Firm in Faith -** With so many outside influences and pressures, it's important for teenagers to learn how to **stand firm in their faith.** Youth leaders have the opportunity to help teens stand for their faith and to know why can be confident in God, even when they face peer pressure. **1 Corinthians 16:13 ("Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.")**
7. **Living as a Light in the World -** As followers of Christ, we are called to be a light in this dark world. This includes teenagers! Speaking on this topic for youth allows you to encourage teenagers to let their light shine before their friends, whether at school, on the sports field, or even at home. **Matthew 5:14 ("You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.")**
8. **The Importance of Serving Others -** Jesus came to serve, not to be served. As His followers, we should also have a heart for serving others. By discussing this topic with teenagers, you can encourage them to find ways to serve in their community, church, and even within their own families. **Mark 10:45 ("For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.")**
9. **Honoring Their Mother and Father -** Respecting their moms and dads is, for many teens, a struggle. Speaking on this youth sermon topic allows you to highlight the importance of honoring parents and how it reflects our relationship with God. **Exodus 20:12 ("Honor your father and mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.")**
10. **Dealing with Temptation -** Temptation is something everyone faces, but teenagers can be especially vulnerable to it. They are trying to figure out their way through the world and temptation is on every side. You can discuss how we can resist temptation and make wise choices instead. **1 Corinthians 10:13 ("No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.")**
11. **Worry About The Future -** Teenagers, like everyone else, are tempted to worry about the future. They may fear about their grades, college, or even their relationships. As a

leader, you can provide them with biblical wisdom on how to trust in God and not worry about the future. **Matthew 6:34 ("Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.")**

12. **Bullying and Peer Pressure -** Being a teenager in today's world can be tough. Many teens struggle with bullying and peer pressure, whether it is in school or online. In your talk, you can address these issues and how we should respond to them as followers of Christ. You can discuss the importance of loving your enemies while still drawing healthy boundaries. **Romans 12:2 ("Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.")**
13. **Self-Worth -** Sadly, many teenagers have a very low sense of self-worth. They see themselves as useless or nothing special. You have the privilege of helping them find their worth in God and being a child of His. You can tell them that they are valuable because they belong to God and He loves them. **1 Peter 2:9 ("But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.")**
14. **Healthy Relationships -** Teenagers often struggle with navigating relationships, whether it is with friends or romantic partners. Use this sermon topic for youth to teach them about biblical principles for healthy relationships. Discuss the importance of communication, forgiveness, and mutual respect in all types of relationships. **Proverbs 17:17 ("A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity." )**
15. **Doubt -** It is common for teenagers to struggle with doubts about their faith. After all, they are still figuring out who they are and what they believe. Address their doubts and questions, and encourage them to seek answers through prayer, reading the Bible, and talking to trusted mentors. **Jeremiah 17:7 ("But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him.")**
16. **Overcoming Fear -** Teenagers face many fears and anxieties, whether it is about school, their future, or the world around them. Show them from scripture how God can help them overcome their fears and find peace through faith in Him. Help them experience the peace that passes all understanding that is found in God. **2 Timothy 1:7 ("For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.")**
17. **Envy/Jealousy -** In our Instagram, and TikTok world teens are more tempted than ever before to compare themselves to others. As they see others, they may struggle with jealousy and envy, wanting something other than what God has given them. Guide them

to see how harmful these feelings can be and encourage them to focus on gratitude and contentment in what they have. **Proverbs 23:17 ("Do not let your heart envy sinners, but always be zealous for the fear of the Lord.")**

18. **Self-Esteem -** Many teenagers struggle with low self-esteem, especially in a culture that constantly bombards them with unrealistic standards of beauty and success. Teach them to find their worth and value in God, who created them uniquely and has a plan for their lives. Remind them that they are fearfully and wonderfully made by Him. **Psalm 139:14 ("I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.")**
19. **Money/Possessions -** Though most teens aren't wealthy, it's still important for them to know what the Bible says about money and how we are to handle money. You can help teens see that money is only a temporary treasure, while God offers eternal rewards. Encourage them to give generously in other ways as well, such as with their time or talents. **Matthew 6:33 ("But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.")**
20. **Contentment -** Even without money, teenagers struggle with contentment. They want a different home or body or family or friend group. Encourage the teens that God can help them be content, even with very little. Help them see that God is the great treasure that we all should be pursuing with all our hearts. **1 Timothy 6:6 ("But godliness with contentment is great gain.")**
21. **Forgiveness -** Forgiveness is a difficult concept for anyone to grasp, especially teenagers who are still learning how to navigate relationships and emotions. Teach them the importance of forgiveness, both in giving it to others and receiving it from God. Help them understand that true freedom and healing come when we release the burdens of unforgiveness. **Colossians 3:13 ("Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.")**
22. **Purpose/Calling -** Teenagers are often searching for their purpose and calling in life. This sermon topic allows you to explain that God has a unique plan for each of them. You can encourage them to seek His guidance in discovering it. Remind them God gave them specific gifts and talents to be used for His glory and the benefit of others. **Ephesians 2:10 ("For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.")**
23. **Discerning God's Will -** Help teenagers see the importance of seeking God's will in their decision-making. Show them that when they align their plans with His, everything falls

into place. Help them understand that while it may not always be easy or what they want, following God's will leads to a fulfilling and purposeful life. **Proverbs 3:5-6 ("Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.")**

24. **True Beauty -** In a world that constantly bombards teenagers with unrealistic standards of beauty, it's important to remind them of where true beauty comes from. Use this sermon topic for youth to discuss how God sees and values inner beauty over outward appearances. Encourage them to focus on developing their character and hearts instead of striving for worldly perfection. **Proverbs 31:30 ("Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.")**
25. **Biblical Romantic Relationships -** Teenagers need to understand what biblical, healthy relationships look like. They need to know how to relate to the opposite sex in ways that honor God and bring Him glory. This sermon topic allows you to speak to teenagers about the purpose of romantic relationships, boundaries, and what it means to love someone in a godly way. **1 Peter 4:8 ("Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.")**
26. **Heaven/Eternity -** Many teenagers do not think about heaven or eternity because they're so young and they assume they have many more years to live. With this sermon series, you can impress upon young people the need to number their days and live with eternity in mind. You can also discuss the eternal rewards God promises to give. **Psalm 90:12 ('Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.")**

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