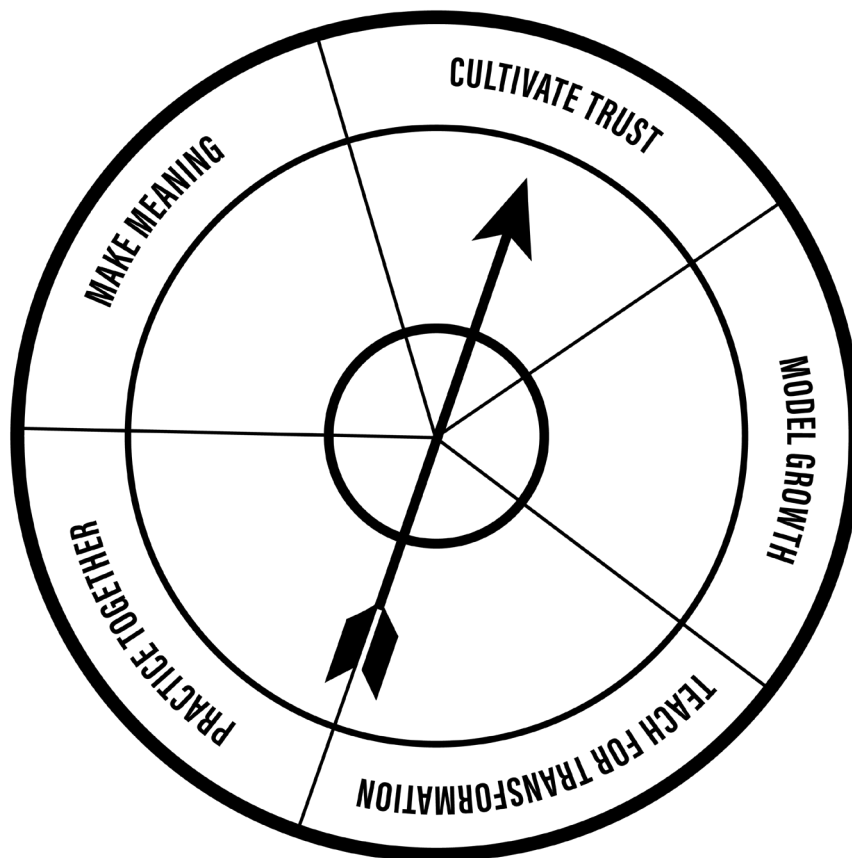


FAITH BEYOND YOUTH GROUP

MINISTRY ASSESSMENT

A good plan starts with knowing where you are. As researchers and leaders, we've noticed that what matters most in assessing youth ministry reality isn't what we as adults think but what teenagers think. So before creating your map, below are thirty questions to measure your ministry's progress on each of the five points of the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass through the lens of your students.

You can score your ministry by yourself. But it is probably much better if you ask a few teenagers, youth group graduates, parents, and/or youth ministry volunteers for their input. In fact, ideally you would ask a diverse cross section of your students to answer these questions to unearth any gaps between your perceptions and their actual experiences.



QUESTIONS TO MEASURE YOUR PROGRESS USING THE FAITH BEYOND YOUTH GROUP COMPASS

Cultivate Trust

On a scale of 1–5, with 5 being “very strongly,” how strongly would the teenagers in your ministry agree with the following statements related to *cultivating trust*:

_____ We can share our significant feelings and experiences at youth group.

_____ When we share significant feelings and experiences in youth group, we can trust the adults to act in our best interest.

_____ We feel relationally close to others in our youth ministry.

_____ Our relationships in our youth ministry have been consistent over time.

_____ Adults in our ministry empathize with what we’re experiencing, meaning they notice and care.

_____ Adults in our ministry show us who they authentically are—instead of trying to be somebody they aren’t.

_____ **Total score for this point of the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass**

Model Growth

On a scale of 1–5, with 5 being “very strongly,” how strongly would the teenagers in your ministry agree with the following statements related to *modeling growth*:

_____ We are around adults whose character inspires us to imitate them.

_____ Adults in our ministry model personal growth.

_____ Adults in our ministry model spiritual growth.

_____ Introverts feel seen and valued in our ministry as much as extroverts.

_____ We’re regularly encouraged to model our lives after Jesus’ example.

_____ It’s natural in our ministry to talk about changing and growing over time.

_____ **Total score for this point of the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass**

Teach for Transformation

On a scale of 1–5, with 5 being “very strongly,” how strongly would the teenagers in your ministry agree with the following statements related to *teaching for transformation*:

_____ We can identify rituals and practices that are used in both our youth ministry and larger faith community.

_____ Adults and teens regularly share our stories with each other in our youth ministry.

_____ Adults in our youth ministry know what topics and issues we care about most.

_____ Our leaders regularly use questions to teach.

_____ My peers and I regularly teach in our youth ministry.

_____ Adult leaders in our youth ministry willingly share their authority with us.

_____ **Total score for this point of the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass**

Practice Together

On a scale of 1–5, with 5 being “very strongly,” how strongly would the teenagers in your ministry agree with the following statements related to *practicing together*:

_____ Our youth ministry gives us regular opportunities to practice loving each other and our world.

_____ When we practice loving others, we do so in community—with others.

_____ Our ministry helps us not just think about character with our minds but actually gives us opportunities to feel and act lovingly.

_____ We use current events as springboards to cultivate character.

_____ We have opportunities to lead and use our gifts to cultivate character in ourselves and others.

_____ The adults who serve in our youth ministry practice loving others even when they are not with us.

_____ **Total score for this point of the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass**

Make Meaning

On a scale of 1–5, with 5 being “very strongly,” how strongly would the teenagers in your ministry agree with the following statements related to *making meaning*:

_____ Our ministry intentionally gives time and space to process and make meaning from experiences.

_____ Adults in our ministry ask good questions to help us find meaning from significant events in our lives.

_____ We use symbols, stories, and everyday objects to make spiritual meaning and explore faith in our ministry.

_____ We have clarity on what our church believes about current issues that matter to us.

_____ Our ministry makes spiritual meaning in the midst of tragedy and loss.

_____ We regularly process how we are learning and growing from our service and mission experiences

_____ **Total score for this point of the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass**

Charting Your Map Forward

Now compare your scores on all five points of the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass (with 30 points being the highest possible score for any one compass point).

Given your scores, which one or two points do you want to focus on first? You may want to select the areas where your scores—or those of your students—are lowest. Or you may want to choose the one or two points that most resonated with you throughout this book.

Congratulations! You have now identified your focus on the Faith Beyond Youth Group Compass.

*Adapted with permission from **Faith Beyond Youth Group**: 5 Ways to Form Character and Cultivate Lifelong Discipleship, by Kara Powell, Jen Bradbury, and Brad M. Griffin. Published by Baker Books, 2023.*

MINISTRY ASSESSMENT

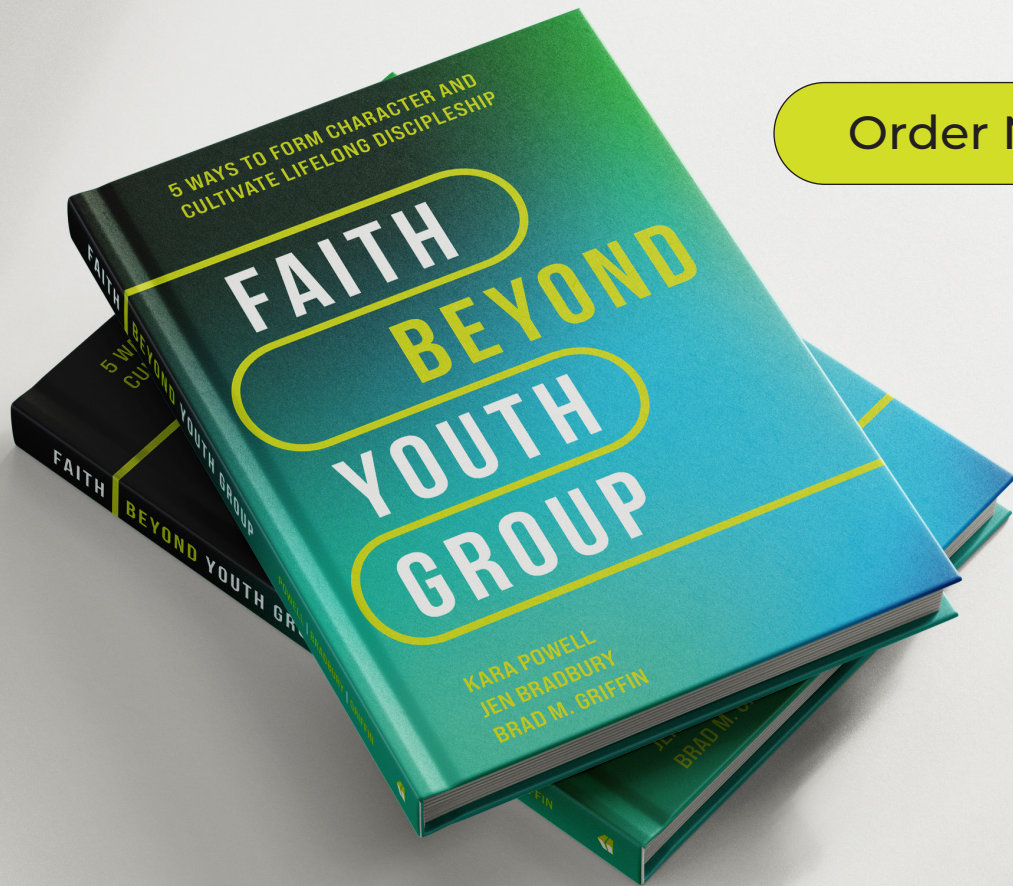
Student

How is our ministry doing? Please help measure our youth ministry's progress by answering the questions. On a scale of 1-5, with 5 being "very strongly," how strongly would you agree to the following:

- _____ We can share our significant feelings and experiences at youth group.
- _____ When we share significant feelings and experiences in youth group, we can trust the adults to act in our best interest.
- _____ We feel relationally close to others in our youth ministry.
- _____ Our relationships in our youth ministry have been consistent over time.
- _____ Adults in our ministry empathize with what we're experiencing, meaning they notice and care.
- _____ Adults in our ministry show us who they authentically are—instead of trying to be somebody they aren't.
- _____ We are around adults whose character inspires us to imitate them.
- _____ Adults in our ministry model personal growth.
- _____ Adults in our ministry model spiritual growth.
- _____ Introverts feel seen and valued in our ministry as much as extroverts.
- _____ We're regularly encouraged to model our lives after Jesus' example.
- _____ It's natural in our ministry to talk about changing and growing over time.
- _____ We can identify rituals and practices that are used in both our youth ministry and larger faith community.
- _____ Adults and teens regularly share our stories with each other in our youth ministry.
- _____ Adults in our youth ministry know what topics and issues we care about most.
- _____ Our leaders regularly use questions to teach.
- _____ My peers and I regularly teach in our youth ministry.
- _____ Adult leaders in our youth ministry willingly share their authority with us.
- _____ Our youth ministry gives us regular opportunities to practice loving each other and our world.
- _____ When we practice loving others, we do so in community—with others.
- _____ Our ministry helps us not just think about character with our minds but actually gives us opportunities to feel and act lovingly.
- _____ We use current events as springboards to cultivate character.
- _____ We have opportunities to lead and use our gifts to cultivate character in ourselves and others.
- _____ The adults who serve in our youth ministry practice loving others even when they are not with us.
- _____ Our ministry intentionally gives time and space to process and make meaning from experiences.
- _____ Adults in our ministry ask good questions to help us find meaning from significant events in our lives.
- _____ We use symbols, stories, and everyday objects to make spiritual meaning and explore faith in our ministry.
- _____ We have clarity on what our church believes about current issues that matter to us.
- _____ Our ministry makes spiritual meaning in the midst of tragedy and loss.others.
- _____ We regularly process how we are learning and growing from our service and mission experiences.

RESHAPE YOUR MINISTRY FOR REAL IMPACT—

**NOT JUST IN YOUR YOUTH ROOM,
BUT EVERYWHERE STUDENTS GO**



Order Now

Building on two decades of the Fuller Youth Institute's work and incorporating extensive new research and interviews, *Faith Beyond Youth Group* identifies the reasons it feels like you're working so hard but having so little impact, and offers five ways adult youth leaders can cultivate character for a lifetime of growing closer to Jesus rather than drifting away. With practical insight and tips, you'll find out how to cultivate trust, model growth, teach for transformation, practice together, and make meaning so that teenagers can become adults who hold fast to Jesus and boldly live out a robust faith in the world around them.

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