

Tension Getters

Junior High Talksheets has become an all-time bestseller--because Talksheets work! Now, here are 50 more all new instant youth group meetings that you can use anytime, anywhere. What are Talksheets? They are ready-to-use questionnaires that can be used as discussion starters. They raise questions that make junior high students think and talk.

We need to get organized around here! That is the common cry of youth workers who feel burdened by so much to do in so little time, so many responsibilities and so few results, so much criticism--it seems--so little support. Paul Borthwick agrees that getting organized is essential for effective your ministry, and he has written an essential book to help those of you in youth ministry organize three different areas of your lives: Personal: How do your personal goals and your need for personal growth fit with your youth ministry? If you're married, are your spouse and children helped or hurt by your involvement with kids? Are your other responsibilities suffering? As Borthwick says, Good ministry is the result of a balanced personal life. Ó Professional: Do you see yourself as a youth professional? Is your interaction with pastor and church board characterized by mutual respect? It's the youth worker who will help other people see youth ministry as a profession and not just a fun-and-games operation. Ó Practical: Is your budget balanced? Do you frequently begin activities feeling only half-prepared? Do your volunteers and coworkers know what is expected of them? Better planning and time management can create programs, lessons, and activities that help people grow, learn, and love each other. Ó Part I of 'Organizing Your Youth Ministry' examines the need to the youth minister to organize his or her personal life as well as ministry, setting priorities, and the special challenges of church youth ministry. Part II addresses the philosophical foundations of youth ministry organization: Why do we do what we do? What is it young people really need? How do you work with a team? Where do parents fit in? Part III discusses how to organize the daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly administrative demands of the youth ministry, from budgets to retreats, from activities to Sunday school lessons, from choir to missions projects, from discipleship programs to the special needs of junior-high students. Part IV helps us to evaluate our goals and to measure the effectiveness of our youth ministry -- always keeping in mind that, as Borthwick says, the ultimate purpose isn't just to produce better programs or a more efficient discipleship system Ó but to present each person complete in Christ Ó (Col. 1:28 NASB). So if you, like every other youth worker, have too much to do, too little time to do it in, and sometimes don't know where to begin, 'Organizing Your Youth Ministry' can help. Give it a try -- and you'll find out why Paul Borthwick says that organization can be a ministry in itself.

High School TalkSheets has become an all-time bestseller-because TalkSheets work! Now, here are 50 more ALL NEW instant youth group meetings that you can use anytime, anywhere. What are TalkSheets? They are ready-to-use questionnaires that can be used as discussion starters. They raise questions that make high school students think and talk.

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Strategies for dealing with problems and making decisions in a moral way.

A guide for young people entering middle school, which covers such things as getting lost, where to find help, adjusting to home room, etc.

Does your youth group suffer from the "silent complex"? Need help to get them talking about what's really important? Would you like to be a more effective discussion leader? Then look no further! Get 'Em Talking gives you 104 field-tested ideas that will get your kids talking about topics like . . . Rock Music - Dating - Serving God - Death - Friendship - Peer Pressure - Anger - Drugs and Alcohol - Gossip - Family - Parents - The Church - Values - Faith - Cheating - Jesus . . . and many more! Get 'Em Talking is

the perfect resource for anyone who leads discussions. You'll glean the insights of two of the nation's most experienced youth professionals on what makes discussion groups tick, how to get a good discussion started, what to do when problems hit, and much more. Learn How to Effectively Use Discussion Techniques Like: - No-risk Discussions - Rug Discussions - "If" Surveys - Yarn-Sharing Experiences - Relay Discussions - Tape Talk - Groupers - Continuum Discussions -- Get 'Em Talking will quickly become an indispensable part of your youth ministry resource library. Whenever you need a great discussion-starting idea, just reach for Get 'Em Talking!

After 20 years of playing professionally in all the musical genres, Robert Kaye presents a compilation of his notes in his new book, *The Classical Method: Structure and the art of Piano Classical Improvisation Compositional Theory and Poetic Harmony*, revealing the secrets of the great composers throughout history. Kaye's instrument of choice is the piano. *The Classical Method* is attuned to myriad styles and instruments which determine his method, but his basis and the foundation of his method rests in the piano. His method focuses on target and sight, revolutionizing the way that musicians play and composers create music. Developed from years of experience as a career pianist, Kaye takes the reader behind the closed doors of the creative process and unveils the methodology behind great, profound music: "How coincidental the peak of the Classical era was 1776. It became clear that my deprivation, frustration and lack of education not only was overwhelmed with too much information. But it was only going to become real and rewarding by sheer experience of playing the piano and with quick results. ... Using your mind in conjunction with geometry and the very Freedom that the founding fathers intended for us to have. I think I found the many secrets to it, especially by targeting. And it has given me an enormous relief. I am now enriched with more music than one lifetime can accomplish. I live in contentedness by the proof of the freedom of the mind. Can understand and accept it spiritually as well as scientifically and have an array of pages accumulating everyday in composition. Never frustrated what to play, improvise, compose, display or demonstrate "The Classical Method." *The Classical Method*: is user-friendly and helps to unlock the mysteries behind musical genius, giving advanced musicians the keys to a promising methodology for improvisation and original composition. Current issue is - 12th. Edition Completed - 5/12/12

A collection of skits with a Christian message.

Bestselling Christian educator Ginny Holderness refocuses the attention on leadership in the youth ministry to young people themselves. Holderness and coauthor Robert Hay expand on her original team approach to include young people in the leadership team. Successfully implemented in many church programs already, this expanded approach to team-building ensures that young people take ownership of their youth ministries. *Ministry with Youth in Crisis* is a comprehensive treatment of major adolescent crises related to life themes including self-identity, faith formation, family life, social relationships, sexuality, suicide, substance abuse, and eating disorders. The distinctiveness of this book is that it offers a fine blend of solid research, workable theory, and specific strategies for successfully ministering to and with youth in crisis. Furthermore, it emphasizes the caring and sensitive side of working effectively with adolescents experiencing both normal and extreme crisis

situations. This volume, therefore, is both descriptive and prescriptive in nature, in that it describes the world teens live in and offers biblical responses for ministry.

You want your kids to become intimate with God's Word. But too often, it seems like an exercise in boredom. Thankfully, veteran youth ministers Bill McNabb and Steven Mabry have come to the rescue with *Teaching the Bible Creatively*. McNabb and Mabry have distilled their years of experience into a comprehensive, idea-packed volume that both outlines what makes Bible teaching creative and gives you dozens of ideas you can use right now to inject new life into your Bible Studies. McNabb and Mabry cover a wide range of topics, including--How to motivate kids to want to study the Bible - How to teach so that kids will remember - Ways to make your study setting ideal for learning - How to make Bible teaching relevant to today's youth culture - Ideas for improving your teaching technique - How your Bible teaching can make a difference in your kids' lives -- Whether you're a youth worker, a CE director, or a Sunday school teacher, *Teaching the Bible Creatively* is just what you've been looking for to add more spark, energy, and substance to your Bible teaching.

Spiritual growth and health. So essential . . . so valuable . . . and so difficult to maintain. Why? That's the question every burned-out or morally fallen youth worker has asked. And all of us in youth ministry wrestle with the seemingly endless battle against spiritual fatigue. Fortunately, veteran youth and missions minister Paul Borthwick gives us a fresh understanding of the battle and a game plan for developing and maintaining a dynamic spiritual life in *Feeding Your Forgotten Soul*. Borthwick takes a frank look at the hurdles to spiritual growth, what it takes for us to resume the path to spiritual health, and offers clear guidelines on how to keep our lives firmly on the spiritual balance beam. He addresses topics like -- Understanding how the drive for success affects our spiritual integrity - Confronting and surviving the battle with sexual temptation - Building spiritual discipline back into our lives - Learning to forgive ourselves -- *Feeding Your Forgotten Soul* is clear without being simplistic. Borthwick avoids the quick-fix mentality, instead pointing us to a long-term path to solid spiritual development. And he doesn't speak from a pedestal. He is brutally honest about his own struggles with loss of perspective, spiritual fatigue, and temptation. You'll find *Feeding Your Forgotten Soul* to be as sensitive as it is challenging, as compassionate as it is honest. And you'll come away with a new motivation for strengthening your personal walk with God.

Start Discussions That Matter to Your High Schoolers About God. About themselves, their, beliefs, their questions, their lives.[Burst: More than a quarter-million copies sold in this series!]*More High School TalkSheets—Updated!* contains the same kind of provocative, compelling, discussion-starting questions that are hallmarks of the best-selling *TalkSheets* series—now updated for new-millennium high schoolers. Here are 50 more creative discussions that focus on relevant, real-life topics:*The Future**Death**Priorities**AIDS**Heaven & Hell**Premarital*

SexPrayerKnowing GodHomosexualityMaterialism & Consumerism. . . and 40 more subjects of perennial interest to teenagers. TalkSheets are convenient, effective one-page reproducible handouts with intriguing questions that will get church kids and unchurched kids alike talking and thinking about the Bible—and how its principles affect their daily lives. Use TalkSheets to launch your own lesson—or use them as stand-alone Bible studies. Each TalkSheet comes with detailed information and suggestions for discussion leaders: Bible references galore, Internet resources, further group exploration, and activities to pursue during and after the meeting. More High School TalkSheets—Updated! is the perfect discussion-starting resource for youth meetings, small groups and cell groups, Sunday school, and camps and retreats.

Ever been to a Fantasy Island Night? How about a Garbage In, Garbage Out Party? Or maybe you've played Giant Monopoly—a car rally in which your whole town substitutes for the game board. Here are dozens and dozens of ideas. The older teens in your parish want a youth ministry program that exposes them to relevant, real-world topics in an active, engaging way. Horizons is an innovative, comprehensive approach to religious education. Its foundation is teacher-led, creative learning strategies that give students ample opportunities for discussion, reflection—and fun! Designed for grades 9-12, Horizons utilizes a module system so that you can combine courses and topics to meet the specific needs of your parish. Seven core courses set the stage for discussing central and foundational themes. Then choose from a wide selection of age-appropriate minicourses to round out your curriculum and craft summer courses, retreats, and youth-group activities. The Youth Ministry Strategies component features more than 65 creative youth activities to complement the Horizons curriculum. And on top of all that, Horizons includes outstanding training resources. You'll be able to create the most engaging and relevant youth ministry program for senior high that is available anywhere.

Okay, so they used mule mail instead of e-mail -- but they were still surprisingly modern men and women. With emotions, decisions, and dilemmas as raw and real as the students sitting in front of you every week. David and Rahab, Daniel and Ruth—even with their rough edges, they passionately loved Jehovah in a way today's adolescents can understand and emulate. Here are 12 Old Testament character studies, including-- Believe it or not -Abraham: Living by faith is not for wimps - Faith overcomes a fast past -Rahab: What you live is what you believe. Everything else is just talk. - The waiting game -Joseph: Trials and temptations can make us strong. - Benchwarmer to first string -Moses : Often God uses the least likely person to do great things. - Right woman, right place, right time -Esther : God has created each one of us for a purpose. - Keeping promises -Ruth: Commitment means more than saying the right words. - Bad days for good people -Job: Suffering may be the condition from which humans benefit the most. - The long way home -Jonah: Sometimes we simply say no to God. -- And to help you teach the lesson are clips from easy-to-get videos . . . games for mixing and games that teach . . . in-depth, ready-to-use questions guaranteed to spark small-group discussion . . . original role plays, scripts, dilemmas faced by these ancient but very human believers in their Yahweh. For youth workers, Sunday school teachers, and CE directors, Creative Bible Lessons from the Old Testament will help your students

understand that the God who offered hope and courage to ancient history-makers still does the same for teenagers today. 12 lessons.

Describes games and special activities for Valentine's Day, Easter, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and other holidays.

Things have changed. The Truth has not. The 1950's are gone forever. The days of the Sunday school attendance award and the much-loved Sunday school picnic have faded into oblivion. Yet some youth ministries still operate as if today's kids are living in a vacuum, unaffected by the changing morals of today's society. How can we reach these kids with the truth of the gospel? More than fifty of America's youth experts give advice and encouragement to those who long to see this generation know the love of Christ. They help readers think through their philosophies of youth ministry, break down barriers that impede progress, and maximize their own gifts and the gifts of those who work with them. They answer tough questions such as: How can leaders build a relational youth ministry? How can we find and support volunteers? What are the issues women face in youth ministry? How do we minister in ethnic communities? How should we respond to popular culture? How can we help hurting adolescents? You can have a vibrant youth ministry even in these uncertain times. You can reach this generation for Christ.

TalkSheets have been working for youth group leaders for more than a decade. Now they are radically updated and ready to stimulate high schoolers toward in-depth discussions on real issues--everything from drinking to social justice.

In this thoughtful, comprehensive guide you will find ideas for encouraging spiritual growth in young people by one of the most authoritative voices in youth ministry today.

Ministry With Youth In Crisis is a comprehensive and wide-ranging treatment of seven major adolescent crises: self-identity, family life, social relationships, sexuality, suicide, substance abuse and eating disorders, and the institutions of school, work, and church.

Activity-based learning removes fears and prepares adult volunteers for more effective ministry to teens.

To Be a Junior High Youth Worker . . . takes a distinct kind of adult, just as junior highers are a distinct kind of people. Betwixt and between though they may be, early adolescents are as capable of a genuine spiritual understanding and growth as high schoolers. It's just that junior highers absorb Bible teaching and demonstrate their spirituality—well, differently. Help! I'm a Junior High Youth Worker! is your primer for understanding young teenagers, then teaching them with a mind-set and with methods that fit them. First Things First. Three axioms that define your territory as a junior high youth worker. So Just What Is a Junior Higher, Anyway? The essence of early adolescence: the need for appropriate rules . . . the dilemma of throwing sixth graders and eighth graders together in the same program . . . small is good. Developmentally Speaking. Changes junior highers enjoy and endure cognitively, emotionally, socially, spiritually . . . their changing relationships with parents . . . individuation and hair under their arms. Time to Teach! Your required dose of pedagogy: the case for fun learning .

. . ten top teaching topics for middle school ministry . . . how simulations, role plays, and storytelling can be your best teaching methods for early adolescents. Faith Outside the Youth Room. Spiritual discipleship for middle schoolers: they don't have to be high schoolers to begin forming habits of prayers, service, and outreach. Help! I'm a Junior High Youth Worker! is help at hand surviving and thriving in ministry to early adolescents.

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