

Understanding People From A Youth Perspective

Course Description: To gain a biblical and practical understanding of people (human nature) as it relates to youth serving in leadership/ministry roles.

Objective: At the conclusion of this course, you will know and be able to define the origin, makeup, and purpose of man; have a working knowledge of character, behaviors of man, and relationships; and know your responsibility toward man.

I. Introduction

- A. God's concern for man – Job 7:17 & 18, Psalm 8:4-6, 144:3, Hebrews 2:6-10
- B. The importance of understanding people

II. What is Man?

- A. The origin of man – Genesis 1:26-28, 2:7
- B. The makeup of man
 - 1. Body - flesh
 - 2. Soul – (Hebrew: nephesh) immaterial/eternal
 - 3. Spirit – breath of life
- C. The purpose of man
 - 1. Be fruitful, multiply, replenish the earth and subdue it, have dominion
 - 2. Relationship – Genesis 3:8-11
 - 3. Glorify God – I Corinthians 6:20

III. Understanding Man

- A. Character - attributes or features that make up and distinguish an individual; moral or ethical quality.
 - 1. Human nature vs. the nature of God – as seen in various biblical characters
 - a. Pride/Humility
 - b. Disobedient/Righteous
 - c. Sinful/Holy

- B. Behavior - the manner in which one behaves; the actions or reactions of a person or animal in response to external or internal stimuli.
 - 1. Passive - shying away from saying what you really mean and not seeking to achieve your needs, particularly when someone else has conflicting needs.
 - 2. Aggressive - standing up for your rights, but in a way that violates the rights of other people.
 - 3. Passive/Aggressive - Confusion
- C. Relationships - a state of connectedness between people.
 - 1. Qualities of a successful relationship
 - 2. Building a strong self-image (diagram)
 - 3. Diversity/Differences – Respect

IV. Your responsibility toward man

- A. Ministry of reconciliation – II Corinthians 5:18-20
- B. Accountability