

International Institute of Christian Ministries

YRE 103

***Current Youth
Culture Issues***

by

Ronald Henson Whitehead
Assistant Professor for Youth Ministry
Andrews University, Berrien Springs Michigan

Current Youth Culture Issues

Table of Contents

- I. Introduction
- II. Health / Temperance
- III. Entertainment / Media
- IV. Distinctive Adventist Youth Culture Issues
- V. Who has the most moral influence on today's youth?
- VI. What the Adventist Church is doing right for today's youth
- VII. What are the future youth ministry challenges for the Adventist Church?

Note: This syllabus is in the process of being further developed by the author. If you are planning to teach this course, and would like the latest version, contact May-Ellen Colon at the General Conference Sabbath School and Personal Department to find out if a more finished version is available.

Contact info:

E-mail: colonm@gc.adventist.org

Phone: 301-680-6164

Chapter I – Introduction

Course Objectives

This syllabus will assist Christian teachers, pastors and parents to better understand the challenges of being a young person in the 21st century.

Relevant spiritual leaders of young people must have a general knowledge of current youth issues and how they effect the spiritual, social, mental and physical growth of “their” youth.

This course will most likely take you out of your personal comfort zone, but it will open your eyes to the challenges and complexities of growing up in the 21st century.

Student Requirements for the Course

1. Each student taking this course must be grounded with a personal walk with Jesus Christ and have an experiential working knowledge of salvation by grace. Ephesians 2:8-9
2. Each student must use this course information to understand how the Evil One is trying to compromise and destroy “our” youth. The content is not to be used as a hammer to condemn a young person. In other words, identify and condemn the sin but love the sinner. *Ellen White Steps to Christ, “Faith and Acceptance, pg. 54*
3. Each student must interview 20 young people, using the questions below. Ten youth ideally should be Christians, and 10 youth should be from the general public (youth who you do not know). Summarize their answers in written form.

The questions can also be used to test your youth culture knowledge, so enjoy learning about current Christian and secular youth culture.

- A. Who is your favorite music group or singer?
- B. What is your favorite movie?
- C. Do you know anyone who takes drugs?
- D. Do you know anyone who has had pre-marital sex?
- E. Do you believe in God?
- F. Are there moral absolutes for right or wrong?
- G. When was the last time you went to a house of worship?
Examples: Church, synagogue, mosque, etc

Textbook / Website “Textbook”

1. Why Our Teenagers Leave the Church. Roger Dudley. Review & Herald Publishing. 2000. ISBN: 0828014582
2. Steps to Christ – Youth Edition. Ellen G. White. “*Faith and Acceptance*” page 49-56. Published by the General Conference Church Ministries Department, Silver Springs MD. ISBN: 0828007063
3. Center for Parent / Youth Understanding: A non-denominational website and organization committed to understanding today’s current youth culture. <http://www.cpyu.org>; email: cpyu@cpyu.org; address: P.O. Box 414, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, 17022; Phone: (717) 361-2469; fax: (717) 361-8964

*The books can be purchased from the Adventist Book Center Online Store

Final Introduction Thoughts

Jesus’ ministry is the supreme example for spiritual leaders. For youth ministry leaders, in particular, we must concentrate on Jesus’ incarnation ministry. He was prepared to get alongside people, He made them feel significant, He gave of Himself, looking to their potential, helping them through their failures. This is the goal of youth ministry, to help young people become mature in Christ.

Young people are not just “little adults” (cf. Elkind 1984:18). They are complex individuals who are battling to deal with the awesome transformation of their bodies, minds and emotions. They are in the time of transition and growth, developing from the birthed bundle of potential to the fully integrated, functional member of society and the church. The church and parents are in a unique position of responsibility to assist in this process.

The purpose of youth ministry is to point youth towards a relationship with God, in spite of the world’s compromising culture, and help them become involved in the Great Commission. (Matthew 28:16-20)

Chapter II – Health / Temperance

Scripture For Guidance

1. “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you are bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.” 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV).
2. “So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.” 1 Corinthians 10:31 (NIV)
3. “Wine is a mocker, strong drink a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise.” Proverbs 20:1 (NRSV)

SMOKING – DRINKING - DRUGS

Before youth thought smoking was cool, adult society made it so. Youthful misuse of alcohol and drugs reflects sustained examples of reckless consumption depicted by the media and is influenced by continuous suggestions from advertising. Teen addicts not only follow in the steps of adult addicts, but also socialized in cultures of addiction. Adolescent curiosity, pain, risk taking, rebellion and peer influence also may be involved.

Over the past few decades, teenagers and increasingly children the world over have been abusing drugs as never before. Youthful smoking is all too prevalent. Street kids with their cans of glue, “ravers” (those who attend rave dances where drugs are sold) popping pills, and binge drinking are all too common. The progression tends to be from smoking, to drinking, and then soft and hard drugs. Some people object correctly that this is not the pattern for all; however, it is a significant pattern for those who fall into drug use and those who work with addicts understand how it works. Most addicts began by smoking, then proceeded to excessive drinking, smoking pot and using the hard drugs.

In country after country throughout Asia, meth use skyrocketed during the ‘90s. And with the crash of the regions highflying economies, the drug use has surged again. The base drug – ephedrine – was actually first synthesized in Asia: a team of Japanese scientists derived it from the Chinese Mao herb in 1892. Unlike pharmaceutical knowledge to manufacture, or heroin, whose base product, the poppy plant, is a vulnerable crop, ephedrine can be refined fairly easily into meth. This makes meth labs very attractive. *Source: South China Morning Post.*

Human behavior works from needs and the meeting of needs. Our needs are physical, emotional, intellectual, social and spiritual. There is also the Maslovian hierarchy of needs from instinctive survival needs to more complex needs, to belonging and love and finally spiritual fulfillment.

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THIS QUESTION

- Why do you think young people in your community and church take drugs, drink alcohol or smoke tobacco?

Chemicals that give some kind of physical or emotional reward:

- A. Sugar
- B. Chocolate
- C. Caffeine in coffee, tea or sodas
- D. Alcohol in wine, beer and harder liquors
- E. Nicotine in cigarettes, cigars and smokeless forms
- F. Marijuana (www.theantidrug.com)
- G. Inhalants (household cleaners and petroleum products)
- H. Depressants (or downers, yellow jacket, phennie, red devil)
- I. Stimulants (or uppers, speed, meth, bennies)
- J. Narcotics (heroin from opium or cocaine and crack from coca)
- K. Hallucinogens (LSD or acid, PCP or angel dust, Ecstasy, e, or MDMA)

To this list we should add steroids, both anabolic (building) and androgenic (masculinizing) products, which include the male hormone testosterone and artificial derivatives.

HOW CAN WE HELP AN ADDICTED YOUNG PERSON?

Effective Intervention may involve programs that adapt the Twelve Steps to Christian settings and to young people. The steps are meant to be discussed. The power of Alcoholics Anonymous and related programs is that they allow alcoholics and addicts to hear other's stories. Alcoholics Anonymous, the Big Book is mostly stories and this is its power. The power of Twelve Step programs is two-fold: belief in God or a Higher Power and admission of one's own failure and strong support of a group of friends who share one's problem and determination to change. This is really the secret of powerful youth ministry. Twelve Step programs are adaptable to secular and Christian settings. Belief can be in a Higher Power, in a personal God, or even more specifically in Jesus Christ.

How can you talk to someone who does not want to be talked to? Your only recourse may be to listen and set clear boundaries. This takes time. The person who does not want to hear your advice may not even want to talk with you. Effective conversation may happen because you care, you are aware, you are open and non-condemning, and you are prepared. Remember you may not succeed unless you care about a young person more than he/she cares for themselves. Your attitude and style must be non-judgmental and accepting (Romans 2:1 and Matthew 7:1-2). You must also be aware of the issues and where this particular young person is. Finally, you must be prepared with skills of

active listening and resources for referral. Above all, you must be there day after day when he's ready – and be prepared for many hours of follow-through.

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THIS QUESTION

- How can you show a young person that you really care about them?

At times you will find a young person who is very resistant to your friendship. After exhausting your personal resources, you may get them to talk with you and a friend or two. Another option is to remember a more formal intervention sometimes works, although more often this helps older abusers. Sometimes a trip to a treatment center or a visit to a recovery group is in order, where you can talk on the way to and from the meeting.

Sometimes nothing works with people you love. You must let them go. You must be aware of co-dependency. This is when your life is too consumed with this other person's problems. Be careful not to lose balance in your personal life. But take hope and remember that your love and prayers may continue even when your help is rejected.

BOOK RESOURCES

1. Tough Love. Pauline Neff. Abingdon Press. 1996. Nashville, TN. ISBN: 0687018250
2. Drug-Proof Your Kids: A Prevention Guide and An Intervention Plan. Focus on the Family Publishing 1989. Colorado Springs. ISBN: 0929608267
3. Drugs, God and Me. Group Publishing. 1988. Loveland Colorado. ISBN: 0931529417
4. The Twelve Steps for Christians: Based on Biblical Principles. RPI (revised edition). 1994. ISBN: 0941405575

*These books can be purchased from the Barnes and Nobles Online Bookstore

INTERNET RESOURCES

1. www.health.org
2. www.talkingwithkids.org
3. www.tobaccofree.org

SEXUAL MORAL TOPICS

SCRIPTURE FOR GUIDANCE

1. (Jesus said) "...from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female."
Mark 10:6 (NRSV)
2. "Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body." 1 Corinthians 6:18 (NIV)

Sexual abuse and rape carries a lifetime of suffering and anguish. Unlike many sins, these sins create deep, long-lasting emotional scars.

The world is preoccupied with many forms of immoral sexual temptations. For youth growing up in the 21st century, these temptations are one of Satan's most powerful tools to compromise, discourage and destroy young people.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus describes sexual attraction as properly directed exclusively toward one's spouse (everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart" Matthew 5:28 (NRSV). Marriage, as Mark 10:7-9 states is a commitment between one man and one woman, established as God's original and forever intent. Yet from the beginning of time, there have been immoral deviations. Over time the rich and powerful were allowed special license while others were condemned for the same moral act.

Yet today in general, the worlds' public tolerance of sexual activity and moral codes of what is right and wrong seems to be almost anything goes and Christians are asked to tolerate sexual deviations because they are "personal and private matters."

Adults and youth seem confused about what is right and what is wrong as it relates to premarital sex.

More than 100,000 children in British schools received a sex course (called "A Pause") advocating sexual "stopping points" before intercourse. It encourages students under 16 to experiment with oral sex – in order to cut teen pregnancy rates. *Source: Glen Owen. "Government urges under-16's to experiment with oral sex". TIMESONLINE. February 21, 2003.*

Current youth ambivalence about sex reflects society's confusion and mixed messages as seen on television, in magazines, on the Internet and in movies. There are no clear boundaries offered in most societies, therefore the family and church have a huge responsibility to offer young people a Biblical moral code to live by.

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THIS QUESTION

- What can your church do better to help a young person stay morally pure?

It is important that North Americans, Europeans – in fact all of us the world over – have a global perspective on these problems affecting our young people. Urbanization, globalization and changing economies, the structure of the family and social values worldwide are changing rapidly. Pop culture erodes traditional values and restraints from Moscow, Tokyo, Beijing, Sidney, Liverpool, Spokane or Rio. In small rural villages of Kenya, children are watching WWF – World Wrestling Federation and suggestive television sitcoms. In Eastern Europe and Russia, the collapse of Communism lowered restraints and led to an upsurge in sexual behaviors among youth. We could go on and on around the world to illustrate how country after country is falling lower and lower morally, but let's look for answers.

WAYS TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE STAY MORALLY PURE

Options for helping youth deal with various forms of sexual temptation include more education. This generation talks about things your generation never thought about because you never saw it on film or read about it in a magazine or book or had friends who tried it and then talked about it. Proper education involves discussion by a qualified person in the proper setting with parent consent. It is important to notify parents in writing before you or anyone else representing a church or school teaches a sex education class.

But most importantly, we need Biblical teaching on what God tells us about moral purity. Resources will follow this session of instruction.

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THIS QUESTION

- What are the best ways to teach young people Biblical truth about moral purity in your church setting?
Examples: Bring in an expert speaker, use videos, etc.

Let us remember that friends and family have powerful influence over youth, so be sure to consider how you can resource these people with Biblical factual health information.

It is important to remember the most effective moral education takes place at home first and then in the church. We fail if we as spiritual leaders do not consider and teach moral purity holistically. Young people desperately need opportunity to ponder the nature of wholesome physical relationships, the benefits of abstinence until marriage, respect and self-discipline with caring mentors.

Scripture's high principles can bring sanity to sexual chaos, challenge disorder and sexual oppression, establish guidelines for sexual fulfillment, prevent sexual injury, and offer compassionate forgiveness and healing. Because so many of "our" young people have already fallen into sexual temptations, it is important to remind them Jesus offers them forgiveness and a second chance. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

BOOK RESOURCES

1. Sex and the Christian Teen. Jim Auer. Liguori Publications. 1994. Liguori, Missouri. ISBN: 0892436328
2. True Love Waits. Mark DeVries. Broadman and Holman Publishers. 1997. Nashville, TN. ISBN: 0805463526

*These books can be purchased from the Barnes and Nobles Online Bookstore

INTERNET RESOURCES

1. www.clubac.com and www.acgreen.com. One web page offers 40 reasons for abstinence given by teens.
2. www.kff.org. HIV/AIDS Health statistics and archives.
3. www.lifeway.com/tlw. True love waits abstinence support information.
4. www.silverringthing.com. This web site is for young people. It also encourages those who have had sex to start over and God offers a second chance.

CLOSING THOUGHTS ON HEALTH

As Adventist Christians we have a unique and powerful health message emphasizing diet, sunlight, water, etc. Now we need to add an emphasis on 21st century destructive health behaviors and addictions.

Some examples of these new and destructive health challenges for our youth are:

1. Steroids
2. Alcohol
3. Pre-marital sex
4. Pornography
5. Homosexuality

6. Depression
7. Hard Drugs
8. Eating Disorders
9. Body Modification
10. Tobacco
11. Youth Gangs
12. Youth Sex Workers
13. Videogames/Obesity
14. Youth Violence
15. Suicide
16. Mental Health
17. Devil Worship
18. Sexual Diseases
19. Lack of Sleep
20. Poverty
21. Incest/Rape/Personal Safety

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THIS QUESTION

- What are the top three health challenges for your youth?

CHAPTER III – ENTERTAINMENT/MEDIA

SCRIPTURE FOR GUIDANCE

1. “Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.” Philippians 4:8
2. “For as he thinketh in his heart (mind) so is he...” Proverbs 23:7 (KJV)

LITERATURE, ART, FILM

Like literature and all art, film can transport us into a story that is not our own, sweeping us up into an adventure which transcends our own lives. When the lights go down, we enter another world. And it is so important to remember, in Steve Garber’s words, “to not leave our minds at the box office”, or in the home movie tape machine. For when we enter the world of film, we are entering a world created mostly by fallen people.

Good art – whether painting, literature, music or film – fires up the imagination with truth, goodness and beauty. “Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.” Philippians 4:8

The Scriptures warn us that when we live in a fallen world among people who do not share our deepest convictions, we should not be surprised that lies are made to look like truth. Let us remember that what we worship shapes our values, and what we live for and adore will mold our view of life, and the world. That’s what idolatry is all about, whether the idol is Baal, Consumerism or Hollywood. Idolatry takes us as Christians off our long term spiritual goals. (Seek ye first the Kingdom of God...Matthew 6:33)

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS

- Do you agree or disagree that music and film in its’ various forms has influence over your youth?
- Is it film or music that has the greatest influence over your youth?

Notice the influence of how information was passed on throughout the twentieth century according to Craig K. Miller in his book “PostModerns”. (Nashville: Discipleship Resources. 1996) p. 50-51.

- A. In the early 1900’s information came in the form of books, newspapers and magazines.

- B. By the 1920's-1940's communication included radio, records and movies.
- C. In the 1950's television came into most American homes heralding a new era in American/World culture.
- D. In the 1960's and 1970's new electronic diversions were created like cassette tapes and transistor radios.
- E. Now there is internet, cable and satellite TV with hundreds of possible program channels.

By the time the average North American “baby boomer” (Born between 1946 and 1964) had reached only sixteen years of age, television had captured an estimated 12,000 to 15,000 hours of his or her time according to Roof, in the book “Generation of Seekers,” p. 53.

We have learned over the years as parents and youth leaders that unlike what we have traditionally taught in the past that it is not *where* we watch film/movies but *what* we are watching that is compromising our youth.

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS

- Do you agree that television and movies have a huge influence over “our” young people?
- What can we do as youth leaders to help young people set boundaries as to what they will watch or not watch?

It is the belief of many youth leaders around the world that the last great spiritual battle on this earth is not the battle of Armageddon, but the battle for the mind. “For as he thinketh in his heart (mind) so is he...” Proverbs 23:7 (KJV)

BOOK RESOURCES

1. Mind over Media: The Power of Making Sound Entertainment Choices. Stan Focus & Randy Southern. Focus on the Family Publishing. Colorado Springs. Item Code: VL012
2. Raising Media-Wise Teens. Bob Waliszewski & Bob Smithouser. Focus on the Family Publishing. Colorado Springs. Item Code: YC084

*These books can be purchased from the Focus on the Family website bookstore.

INTERNET RESOURCES

1. www.family.org

CHAPTER IV – DISTINCTIVE ADVENTIST YOUTH CULTURE ISSUES

(RESEARCH UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THIS QUESTION

- What are the Adventist youth culture issues distinctive to your young people?
Examples: Sabbath observance, diet, movies, adornment, fashion, music. etc.

CHAPTER V – WHO HAS THE MOST MORAL INFLUENCE OVER TODAY’S YOUTH?

SCRIPTURE FOR GUIDANCE

1. “You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things.” Romans 2:1 (NIV)
2. “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.” Proverbs 22:6 (NIV)
3. “Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” Matthew 7:1-2 (NIV)

Guiding a young person through their teenage years is a complex venture and one with which most parents and youth leaders are having great difficulty. In almost every respect, the adolescent situation is becoming more and more challenging every year. Teenage suicide has increased so dramatically that it is now the second leading cause of death for people between the ages of 14 and 20. Drug abuse, juvenile crime, teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and feelings of despair are all statically overwhelming.

What is wrong? Why in the past 20 years have we seen the youth of the world so compromised?

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THIS QUESTION

- Why do you think young people in the 21st century are so compromised?

I think we could all agree that in the last days of this earth we have seen Satan elevate his attacks on every front. And he has focused many new and creative attacks, targeting “our” youth.

No doubt there are many church programs and individuals such as pastors, teachers and coaches who have positive influence over “our” youth, but there is one God ordained structure that has been put into place since the beginning of time on this earth to help youth grow up into strong adult Christians. It is the home. The primary resources of spiritual support for “our” young people are their parents.

Yet here again we see the Adversary seeking to destroy this God ordained institution. Many of our youth come to us from single parent homes. We also notice that many

parents do not have the training (tools) to relate to their teenagers. Most parents and youth leaders have distorted ideas of what adolescence is and what they should expect of their young people.

Although most parents truly love their teenagers, they don't know how to convey that love in ways that make the teenagers feel loved and accepted.

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS

- Do you agree or disagree that the home is the foundation institution by which young people receive training about appropriate dress, amusements, dating and marriage?
- Do you agree or disagree that the church needs to do a better job instructing, mentoring and training Christian parents to be more successful in understanding and relating to their 21st century young person and all the pressure they are under?

One of the most common mistakes parents, teachers and others make regarding adolescents is to consider them junior adults. Many people in authority over teenagers overlook their childlike needs for feeling love and acceptance, for being taken care of, and for knowing that someone really cares for them.

Far too many teens today feel that no one really cares about them. Their parents are always working, the pastor and Sabbath school leader doesn't notice when they are not at church. As a result, many of them have feelings of worthlessness, hopelessness, helplessness, poor self-esteem, and self depreciation. Many, but not all teens see themselves in a negative way as unappreciated and worthless. Such a self concept is the natural result of a young person not feeling genuinely loved and cared for.

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS

- Looking back over your teenage years, share times when you felt unappreciated and worthless.
- Now look back over your teenage years and name someone who made you feel genuinely loved and appreciated.

THE HOME

The first responsibility of a parent is to provide a loving and happy home. The most important relationship in the home is the marriage bond, which takes primacy over the parent-child relationship. The security of a teenager and the quality of the parent-child bonding are largely dependent on the quality of the marital bonding.

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS

- Can you see the importance of a secure relationship between a husband and wife?
- What can we do as a church to strengthen marriages?

UNCONDITIONAL LOVE

The basic foundation for a solid relationship with your teenager is unconditional love. Only unconditional love can prevent problems such as resentment, guilt, fear, or the insecurity of feeling unwanted.

Without unconditional love, parenting (or youth ministry leadership) is a confusing and frustrating burden. This love acts as a guiding light with the Holy Spirit, showing you where you are with your teenager and what you should do next to help them along their spiritual journey.

What is unconditional love? It means you will love your teenager no matter what. No matter what they look like, no matter what their assets, liabilities or handicaps are, no matter how he/she acts.

This does not mean you have to like his/her behavior. Unconditional love means you love the teenager, even when you detest his/her behavior.

Scripture teaches us to love the sinner but hate the sin.

If you love your children only when they please you, this is conditional love. This type of love builds in the young person a feeling of insecurity, self doubt and it damages their self-image. This approach to love actually prevents them from developing more mature behavior. So let us remember their behavior development is as much our responsibility as theirs.

“Do you love me?” This is the most important question on your young person’s mind. They may ask it out loud or in their own minds, but be assured; they are looking to have this question answered every day. It is absolutely the most important question in a teenager’s life. And remember that he/she asks this question primarily through his behavior, rather than with words.

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THIS QUESTION

- Give examples of how young people have asked you the question, “Do you love me?”

FOCUSED ATTENTION

It takes time, a lot of time, with youth to give them the focused attention they need to grow in the Lord. Focused attention means giving your teenager full, undivided attention in such a way that he feels truly loved. This is so important when they are struggling with their life's "little problems" and "big problems." If you take the time to talk about their "big issues," you will have the opportunity to discuss your "big concerns".

Answer this question to yourself. When was the last time you took time to focus on one of your children for one hour, 30 minutes, or 10 minutes?

Eye contact and wholesome physical contact is important. To help our youth deal with all the worldly negative influences he/she must feel unconditional love. One of the primary reasons loving parents and youth leaders fail to convey unconditional love to a teenager is the lack of eye contact. Without realizing it, you use eye contact to express many feelings – sadness, anger, hate, pity, rage and love.

Wholesome physical contact is another way to express love and acceptance. The dilemma for many loving parents and youth leaders is their confusion as to how to meet this need.

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THIS QUESTION

- What is appropriate touch for a youth leader?
Examples: side hug, full hug, long hug, kissing on the lips, cheek, etc.

CONCLUSION

Our strongest desire is to see "our" children in Heaven. We want to see our youth grow into strong, healthy, happy and independent adults in the Lord. Today's youth need a strong home to help them deal with all the cultural issues in the world. Let us support the building up of Christian parents with prayer and action.

**CHAPTER VI – WHAT THE ADVENTIST CHURCH IS DOING RIGHT FOR
TODAYS' YOUTH**

(RESEARCH UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THIS QUESTION

- What are the things that you and/or your church is doing right to help youth grow in Jesus? Name the top three.

CHAPTER VII – WHAT IS THE FUTURE YOUTH MINISTRY CHALLENGES FOR THE ADVENTIST CHURCH?

(RESEARCH UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

STUDENT STOP – ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS

- As you look into the next three to five years (if Jesus tarries), what do you perceive “our” youth ministry challenges to be?
- Now look at these possible challenges and discuss how we can more adequately support “our” youth for spiritual growth.