

Diocesan Leader Welcome Packet & Resources



**Train Adults
Launch Small Groups
Make Young Disciples**



YDISCIPLE

POWERED BY NET MINISTRIES

DEAR LEADER,

We are so happy to be partnering with your diocese. We want to support you and the parishes in your diocese as they endeavor to disciple small groups of teenagers. Thank you for making discipleship a priority in your diocese.

We want your parishes to be successful, and we want the diocese's investment to be worthwhile. That is why we recommend taking the following steps to launch this initiative and to follow up with parishes. To make your task simpler, we have already written the content for email, social media posts, etc., and provided it in your Digital Welcome Folder. You are free to edit it as much as you see fit.

These are, of course, simply recommendations. Only you know what will be effective in your area.

YOUR FRIENDS AT



In This Welcome Packet

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES (Found in your Digital Welcome Folder)

YDisciple Brand Guide & Logo Files

This Is YDisciple Video

Diocesan Partnership Suggested Roll-Out

STEP 1: RECRUIT

- Send a general email to parishes explaining the partnership (See page 6)
- Put an announcement in every parish bulletin (See page 10)
- Share the YDisciple explainer video on your social media with a social media post about the partnership (See "This Is YDisciple" video)
- Host an online information session with YDisciple staff
- Send an email to the same general email list following up after the online information session (See page 8)
- Follow up with a phone call to specific leaders that you think would be good candidates
- Inform your local Catholic paper/magazine

STEP 2: IF A PARISH EXPRESSES INTEREST

- You want your parishes to have buy-in to the discipleship model, not just a product. Have them watch the "Introduction to YDisciple" training videos, fill out their plan (see page 11), and submit it to you
- Once they have submitted a simple plan to you, send their contact information to us, and we will set up their subscription

STEP 3: LEAD YOUR LEADERS

Getting parishes to subscribe is just the first step. Parish leaders getting started in a small group discipleship model usually need a lot of support. Consider running a small group of parish leaders that meets monthly to discuss difficulties and successes. We suggest the “Discipleship 101 with Jim Beckman” course as fodder for discussion. Each episode also comes with processing activities.

Do not just pray for, but pray with your parish leaders. Host a day retreat for them in which you pray over them for the release of the Holy Spirit. YDisciple offers content and training, but even the best resource cannot replace the real action of the Holy Spirit.

“EVANGELIZATION WILL NEVER BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE ACTION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT... TECHNIQUES OF EVANGELIZATION ARE GOOD, BUT EVEN THE MOST ADVANCED ONES SHOULD NOT REPLACE THE GENTLE ACTION OF THE SPIRIT. THE MOST PERFECT PREPARATION WILL HAVE NO EFFECT WITHOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT.”

EVANGELII NUNTIANDI, 14

Announcement Email

Dear Parish Leaders,

As a [diocese/archdiocese], we are committed to supporting you in the parish as you strive to make young disciples. That is why we have partnered with YDisciple to bring you the best ministry tools specifically designed for small group discipleship.

YDisciple is powered by NET Ministries and backed by their nearly four decades of ministry experience with young people. YDisciple is a toolbox of training resources for adults and teaching resources for teens specifically designed with small groups in mind.

These resources include the highest caliber small group resources for young people, leader guides to help adults facilitate meaningful discussion, participant guides to help teens grasp key concepts, and parent resources (in English & Spanish) to encourage parents to stay engaged.

YDisciple isn't just another youth ministry resource. Programs don't make disciples; only a disciple can. That's why YDisciple couples small group content for teens with extensive training and support for leaders. YDisciple is not another curriculum, but a means of transforming your ministry to connect young people with faithful mentors in small discipleship groups.

We at the [Diocese/Archdiocese of _____] want to gift you with a subscription to YDisciple for one whole year.

Join us on _____ for an interactive, online meeting with the YDisciple staff. They will explain their product and methods and give you a chance to ask any questions you may have.

Announcement Email (Cont.)

Let me be clear that this is a gift, not a requirement. We are by no means mandating that every parish use YDisciple. We simply see the value in a discipleship approach to forming your youth and want to enable you to do so.

If your parish does not have someone designated to youth ministry, consider passing this on to an engaged adult volunteer in the parish. YDisciple is successfully run in many parishes around the country with no paid staff support!

With the YDisciple subscription we are offering you, you will have:

- Introductory leader training videos
- Video studies for teens
- Additional training, including:
 - A library of more than a dozen short, practical training videos to help your leaders navigate the ins and outs of leading a small group
 - An eight-session course on Discipleship presented by Jim Beckman
 - A training series by Anna Carter, "Walking with Teens & the LGBTQ Experience"
 - A constant drip of new training content
- The ability to download videos so you can play them without being connected to WiFi
- A group license that allows you to share access with leaders
- YDisciple specific iOS, Android & Roku apps
- Access to all YDisciple Bible studies, non-video series that help deepen teens' comfort with and understanding of Scripture while tackling life-application topics

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to our office. Please know of our prayers and support for you in the parish as you work and sacrifice to make Jesus' name known and loved.

Follow-Up Email

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the meeting with YDisciple. If you would like to watch the recording of it, you may do so here: [LINK]

Our offer still stands: If you want to use YDisciple for your youth formation, we want to help you by purchasing a one-year subscription for you. Contact me, and I will tell you how.

You can learn more about YDisciple here. [YDisciple.com]

What is this partnership all about?

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Parish Bulletin Announcement

TO SEND TO ALL PARISH BULLETINS

A vast majority of Catholic youth are disconnecting from the Church during their teenage years.

What if our community offered a small group where teenagers were truly known, loved, and cared for? What if adults were trained to accompany teens and share faith with them? What if the tools to share the faith engagingly AND to train leaders were available in one place?

This is YDisciple.

The [Diocese/Archdiocese of ____] is offering to purchase a subscription to YDisciple for any parish that wants to transform their ministry to teenagers with small group discipleship, whether you have a parish youth leader or not.

Contact your parish office or _____ at the diocesan office to learn how.

Find out more about YDisciple at YDisciple.com.



Getting Started Guide for Parishes

IN WHAT CONTEXT DO YOU PLAN TO USE YDISCIPLE?

WILL THIS MODEL REPLACE A CURRENT FORMATION MODEL, OR WILL IT BE A SUPPLEMENT?

YDisciple is more than a curriculum. It is a process of discipling teenagers in small group environments. While there is no one roadmap to do this, there are four 'Marks on the Map' that successful parishes have in common.

1. PARTNER WITH PARENTS

MAKE A LIST OF POTENTIAL "LEAD PARENTS" WHO WILL HELP BUILD SMALL GROUPS AND GET THE WORD OUT.

2. ENGAGE FAITHFUL ADULTS

MAKE A LIST OF ADULTS IN THE PARISH WHO WOULD BE GOOD SMALL GROUP MENTORS. THINK BEYOND JUST YOUNG ADULTS. YOU ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WHO RELATE WELL WITH OTHERS, HAVE TIME, ARE TEACHABLE, AND ARE FAITHFUL TO THE TEACHING OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. (SEE "EXPECTATIONS OF AN ADULT MENTOR").

3. ENCOURAGE OWNERSHIP FOR TEENS & FAMILIES

THE PROCESS OF BUILDING OWNERSHIP TAKES TIME AND WILL UNFOLD THROUGHOUT YOUR MINISTRY. FOR NOW, THINK ABOUT THE TEENS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN STARTING A SMALL GROUP AND WOULD BE INFLUENTIAL AMONGST THEIR PEERS. WRITE THEIR NAMES HERE.

4. START SMALL

WHAT IS ONE SMALL AND PRACTICAL STEP YOU CAN TAKE TO START THIS SMALL GROUP MINISTRY?

The most important thing you will do in this ministry is to be open to the movements and promptings of the Holy Spirit. We recommend that you begin by praying the Novena to the Holy Spirit, asking his inspiration for everyone listed on this page and for those not yet listed.

WWW.PRAYMORENOVENAS.COM/NOVENA-TO-THE-HOLY-SPIRIT

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