

FIRST TRAINING

YOU'RE INVITED TO...

SOMEONE SEES THE LEADER IN YOU...

You're holding this invitation because someone in your church has seen the leader in you. That may surprise you - you may not see yourself as a leader, but someone already in leadership sees in you someone who wants to follow God and is willing to be used by Him. That's the only qualities you need!

FIRST Training is a three day training retreat for young people in the 16-18yrs age bracket in your part of the country (see dates and venues on the back). It's your chance to meet with others your age who are serious about their faith in God and are willing to allow Him to use them. Does that sound like you?

Our time together will be a mix of teaching, discussion, solo times as well as evenings together socialising and praying with others from your youth group.

What makes this retreat different from most camps is that it's "by invitation only" - and you're invited! Talk with your youth pastor/youth leader about whether or not you can come and they will sign you up if you're keen.

We're praying it might be one of the most significant events in your growth as a follower of Jesus so please give this invitation serious consideration!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When and where is it?

Dates and venues are as follows. You'll attend the retreat nearest you.

- South Island: 4-6 June at Living Springs, Christchurch.
- Upper North Island: 12-14 July at Moirs Point, Mangawhai.
- Lower North Island: 11-13 October at Forest Lakes, Otaki

How much does it cost? I'm not sure I'll be able to afford it.

The cost is \$180 per person. We're encouraging churches to ask people to sponsor those who attend. We want you to know that not only does your church see leadership potential in you, they're willing to invest in you. When you come back from your time away you can report back to those who supported you and let them know how their contribution has impacted your life.

How will I get there?

It's up to each youth group to work out how they will get there. Your youth leader will organise this and will likely be coming with you (or will appoint another leader to come with you).

I've never had any leadership responsibilities. Is that OK?

If your leader wants you there then we want you there! Maybe you've not had a leadership role up until now but maybe through the retreat you'll start to see where God is leading you.

I'm just outside the 16-18yrs bracket. Is that OK?

We're flexible about ages. If your youth leader has given you this invitation then come!

CONTENT

FIRST Training follows a two year curriculum. We do eight topics this year and eight more topics next year. This year we will cover the following topics:

- **The Nature of Christian Leadership:** The qualities and attributes of an effective Christian leader
- **Hearing God's Voice:** How to listen for God and recognise when He's speaking to us and guiding us.
- **Understanding Your Personality:** Understand the way that God has "wired" each of us and learn to appreciate who we each are.
- **The Responsibilities of Leadership:** An outline of what our attitude and approach is to those we lead.
- **Organising Events:** Guidelines for planning, running and assessing effective activities.
- **Asking Good Questions:** Knowing how to encourage those we lead to open up about their life and problems.
- **Personal Pitfalls:** Identifying the factors most likely to cause us to give up on leadership and even on our faith, as well as strategies to overcome these pitfalls.
- **Sharing Your Faith:** Knowing the gospel and developing a lifestyle through which we share it sensitively and effectively with others through what we say and do