

## NEW TO YOUTH PASTORING?



If you're a new youth pastor or even a new key leader you've taken on the most fulfilling calling there is—and one of the hardest!

You'll quickly discover that you're facing a whole range of expectations. Your church leaders may expect one thing but parents will want to have their say too and young people will soon let you know if they don't like what you're doing. Perhaps you have a team to help you but they too may have opinions about what should happen.

Amidst all of this you're trying to stay true to your own convictions and hear from God. You know that He's your "real" boss but you're also aware you can't dodge your accountability to others.

People want to know, "How many young people attended this week?" and "How many committed their lives to Christ at camp?" External measures of success loom over you—people are watching and counting.

Meanwhile, a good deal of your time is spent sitting in an office alone, unsupervised and with little support or even training to help you navigate a maze of expectations and challenges that youth ministry presents.

You're excited about the journey—but you wonder if you'll make it without letting people down and disappointing God.

You have a weight of responsibility and regard which is flattering but at times you feel a little like an imposter.

## MAYBE WE CAN HELP...

If any of that sounded like you, you might be asking "How did you know?!" We know because all these thoughts and emotions are very normal for a new youth pastor or key leader.

If you feel a little overwhelmed at times, don't despair or become discouraged. CCCNZ Youth is here to help you navigate these early years of youth ministry.

It takes a year to really feel as though you have your head around what's happening and two years before you feel as though you have good traction.

Our aim is to walk alongside you for at least these first two years by offering a range of services to help you.

CCCNZ employ me as their Youth Enabler and in a nutshell my role is to enable you to do effective ministry. I don't have all the answers but I do have 40 years of experience in paid and voluntary youth ministry roles including time as a youth pastor (as recently as over the past five years), a regional and national trainer and consultant, and a number of years teaching youth ministry in seminars and at Bible Colleges.

None of that makes me an expert, but it does allow me to ask the right questions and make observations and suggestions for you to consider. Have a read of the services we offer in the right hand panel and contact me if you'd like to discuss further how we might help.

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### COACHING

We will provide you with a youth ministry coach who can teach you the skills you need, and provide you with the markers to aim for in establishing an effective youth ministry. You'll meet with them once a month or via Skype/Zoom or in person and we will help you set the agenda before you meet so that the time spent in coaching yields the highest return.

### SUPPORT

We run an annual Youth Summit in May for youth pastors and key leaders which we'd love you to attend. We can also put you in touch with other people nearby doing the same work as you—people who understand and can offer support.

### TRAINING

We offer leadership development programme and retreats and are available to come and hold training events at your church.

For more information check out our website at [youth.cccnz.nz](http://youth.cccnz.nz) There you will find a link to sign up for our monthly newsletter plus links to our social media feeds.