

## The 7 Laws of Programming: P.E.R.F.O.R.M.

1. If you could choose just one piece of advice for effective programming, what would it be?
  
2. Read through the following statements related to seven laws of programming. Score our group out of 10:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Planning: We plan our activities carefully, attending to details, delegating tasks and allowing for contingencies.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Engagement: We run programmes in such a way as to quickly engage young people and involve them.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Research: We plan programmes by researching young people's needs and other's experiences.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Faith: We plan programmes with an acute reliance upon God and a willingness to take risks and trust Him.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Ownership: We allow young people to take ownership of programmes by involvement in planning and running them.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Review: We review our programmes and our own role in them for the purpose of learning and improving.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Motivation: We motivate others through enthusiasm and optimism even when things are not going so well.

What areas do we most need to work on? What specifically do we need to do to improve?



### Session 1:

## Designing a Youth Ministry Programme

### Programming to Meet Objectives

1. What is our youth ministry's mission/vision statement? Do we have one? If so, do you know what it is?
  
2. List the various programmes we run. How does each one contribute to our mission?
  
3. There are five key practices in the church: teaching, prayer, fellowship, worship and mission. Which of these do we cover with our programmes (weekly or occasional)? What gaps are there?

## Programming to Meet Needs

1. Discuss the following statement. Do you agree or disagree?

*A good youth group programme will be designed according to the expressed needs of the young people.*

2. What are some of the needs of our young people that will be reflected in the programmes we run?
3. If we were to ask parents what they saw as being the needs of young people, what would they come up with?
4. How good are we at finding and meeting young people's needs? What can we do in order to improve?

## Meeting Spiritual Needs

1. The way to determine young people's spiritual needs is to ask the question, "What do they need to know, do, and be, by the time they exit our youth ministry?". Use these headings to develop a draft "curriculum":

*To know:*

*To do:*

*To be:*

2. Which of these three areas have we been weakest in? What can we do to improve?