

Young Adult LIFE – A Discipleship Framework of Young Adult Ministry in the NAD

Mission Statement: Young Adult LIFE connects and empowers an emerging generation of leaders to be cultural changemakers in their church, their career, and their community.



L - Leadership Impact – Transforming personal growth resulting in leadership influence and legacy

I - Intergenerational Relationships – Fostering empathic, authentic, warm community

F - Faith Development – Nurturing Christ-centered spiritual growth, biblical learning, and worship

E - Everyday Compassion – Serving the immediate and eternal needs of others

This Framework is developed based on four research-based church revitalization models:

Intergenerational Church of Refuge(iCOR) <https://icor.church/>

Growing Young (GY) <https://growingyoungadventists.com/>

Natural Church Development (NCD) <https://ncdamerica.andrews.edu/>

Next Steps – Barna Group’s Adventist Millennial Study: <https://www.adventsource.org/store/young-adults/new-leaders/adventist-millennial-study-pdf-38998>

1. LEADERSHIP IMPACT – Reach Beyond

Our influence emerges from personal transformation and growth. As leaders we commit ourselves to life-long learning. We cultivate a culture empowering the next generation of influencers and innovators. We actively model and teach, and we vision and team together with those we lead. We work collaboratively to adapt to change, identify core values, and produce constructive results in individual and collective settings—being conscientious to combine wisdom with innovation.

- a. **Life-long Learning** – Identify elements of leadership, involve oneself in learning environments, continue reading and research in leadership development
- b. **Leadership Skills Development** – Engage in leadership development activities, seek objective evaluation, apply skills to new opportunities, continue leadership growth
- c. **Mentoring & Being Mentored** – Identify mentors and mentees, engage in leadership topics & curricula, develop formal and informal mentoring relationships

Based on the following models: iCOR, Cultivate Empowerment; GY, Keychain Leadership; NCD, Empowering Leadership

2. INTERGENERATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS – Reach In

We foster warm, loving community across the generations, where the participation and interconnection of all ages are valued and practiced. We engage in empathy, authenticity, and care as keystones to our relationships.

- a. **Connecting Intergenerationally** – Value intergenerational friendships, practice connecting across demographics, discover where it’s already happening and can be developed
- b. **Listening, Understanding, Caring** – Practice empathetic listening, invest in understanding generational diversity, engage in caring ways that are meaningful to others
- c. **Participating in Community** – Proactively engage children, intentionally involve youth, continually empower young adults and families everywhere

Based on the following models: iCOR, Foster Relationships; GY, Fuel Warm Community; NCD, Loving Relationships

3. FAITH DEVELOPMENT – Reach Up

We nurture Christ-centered spiritual growth that stems from a passionate love for Him. We foster faith habits and practices that engage the Scriptures as a dynamic compass for maturing in Christ, worshiping Him with our lives, and following His lead in all things.

- a. **Developing Spirituality** – Nurture spiritual desires, understand “owning” one’s faith, engage in personal devotional practices
- b. **Learning & Teaching** – Participate in Biblical discovery, focus on spiritual renewal, develop ways for sharing your faith experiences
- c. **Worshipping Together** – Engage in Jesus-centered praise, be involved in small group community, participate in corporate worship

Based on the following models: iCOR, Nurture Spiritual Growth; GY, Taking Jesus’ Message Seriously; NCD, Passionate Spirituality

4. EVERYDAY COMPASSION – Reach Out

We serve the needs of others out of a genuine love and interest in their present and eternal well-being. We share the Gospel compassionately with those seeking reconciliation with GOD in both verbal and non-verbal ways. We deploy our skills and abilities for the good of others in a manner that allows the Holy Spirit to work in the mundane, the miraculous, and everything in between.

- a. **Applying Giftedness** – Discover our giftedness, share our abilities with others, develop skills beyond our natural talents
- b. **Serving Others** – Meet others’ felt needs, be the hands, feet, ears, mouth of Jesus, engage in short-term and life-long service
- c. **Sharing & Reconciling** – Share sympathy and empathy with others, affirm forgiveness between others, restore relationships everywhere

Based on following models: iCOR, Promote Mission; GY, Be the Best Neighbors; NCD, Need-Oriented Evangelism