

A, B, Cs OF PLACE-SHARING

(Taken from GCI's Generations Ministry and training for GCI interns)

ALWAYS affirm God's love for them.

BUILD a relationship as if you are going to know them for the rest of your life.

CONSISTENTLY available. If young people find you're consistently unavailable, they'll look elsewhere.

DEMONSTRATE the Gospel, along with Gospel declaration, by acts of kindness that speak their heart language.

ENCOURAGE them. You never know what the Lord will unleash with a single word of affirmation and encouragement.

FAMILY MATTERS (learn to see the person more and more in his/her family context). Be a partner to the parent(s).

GO wherever young people congregate. Your presence makes a difference.

HELP them interpret what is going on around them in light of the interpretive key, Jesus Christ.

INVEST in a few. Do for one what you want to do for everyone.

JESUS is their Lord and loves them more than you do. You don't need to solve all their problems.

KEEP your word. Ask for forgiveness when you fail.

LISTEN sincerely (don't be leaning towards "the next thing" – they will pick up on it).

MENTORING is crucial for discipleship and leader development.

NOTICE their strengths and acknowledge their achievements.

OPERATE with appropriate boundaries.

POINT to Jesus (testify to his goodness and to how he works in your life).

QUIT thinking you're not cool enough to connect with youth.

Be yourself...it's enough.

REMEMBER names

("A person's name is the sweetest sound to him in any language." – Dale Carnegie).

SHOW UP! And keep showing up.

TALK about what *they* are interested in without overwhelming them with questions (sprinkle in your story too).

UTILIZE small group ministry to engage young adults and teens.

Group interaction is gold.

VITAL mission process: Invite and Disciple.

WISHING young people would show up at your church is not a strategy.

It takes intentional relationship building.

(e)**XPERT** about your neighborhood and community.

YOU don't need to add new appointments to your schedule.

Invite them to join in what you're already doing.

ZEALOUS in prayer for them always!