

RC2
THE CHURCH
EXPLORED
YOUTH SERIES

12. WHAT KIND OF CHURCH WILL WE BECOME?

Building A Church That Reflects Jesus



CORE TEACHING

1 JESUS IS BUILDING HIS CHURCH Ephesians 4:15-16

The church ultimately belongs to Jesus Christ.

He grows His people through:

- truth • love • worship
- service • discipleship
- and faithful community.

Healthy churches do not happen accidentally.



★ **Emphasize:** *Jesus shapes His church through His people.*

2 LOVE AND TRUTH MUST STAY TOGETHER John 13:34-35

Churches can become:

- harsh without love,
- or compromised without truth.

Jesus calls believers to:



★ **Emphasize:** *Christlike churches are both truthful and gracious.*

3 EVERY BELIEVER HELPS SHAPE CHURCH CULTURE Colossians 3:12-17

The attitudes believers bring into church life matter deeply.

- THINGS THAT STRENGTHEN A CHURCH**
- ✓ humility
 - ✓ encouragement
 - ✓ forgiveness
 - ✓ service
 - ✓ worship
 - ✓ patience
 - ✓ faithfulness



- THINGS THAT WEAKEN A CHURCH**
- ✗ gossip
 - ✗ selfishness
 - ✗ division
 - ✗ pride
 - ✗ bitterness
 - ✗ apathy

★ **Emphasize:** *Students already help shape the church around them.*

4 THE CHURCH SHOULD REFLECT JESUS VISIBLY Acts 2:42-47

The early church became known for:



The church today should still become a visible picture of Christ's Kingdom.

★ **Emphasize:** *People should encounter something of Jesus through His church.*



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Guide your group to think deeper.

1 What qualities make a church feel healthy and Christlike?

Follow-up: *Why do those qualities matter?*

2 What kinds of attitudes or behaviors damage church community?

Follow-up: *Why are those things destructive?*

3 How can students positively influence church culture?

Follow-up: *What practical things can teenagers do now?*

4 Why do truth and love both matter in church life?

Follow-up: *What happens when one is missing?*

5 What kind of church do you hope your generation helps build?

Follow-up: *What would it look like for your youth group to reflect Jesus more clearly?*

DISCUSSION TIP: This final session should feel hopeful, vision-filled, and forward-looking. Celebrate growth, participation, community, and Christ's ongoing work in His people.

REAL LIFE CONNECTION

Churches are shaped over time by:

- habits • attitudes • priorities • relationships
- leadership • worship • and participation.

Teenagers are not merely "the future church."

They are already part of Christ's church now.



WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Challenge students to intentionally:

- ✓ encourage someone at church
- ✓ serve in a practical way
- ✓ strengthen unity
- ✓ participate more actively
- ✓ help create a welcoming environment this week

★ **Ask:** "How can I help my church reflect Jesus more clearly?"



PRAYER FOCUS

Thank the Father for building His church through Christ. Ask the Spirit to help students grow in love, truth, humility, faithfulness, worship, and service as they help strengthen Christ's people.



LEADER NOTES

- ✓ End the series with hope and vision.
- ✓ Celebrate growth and participation.
- ✓ Encourage ownership without pressure.
- ✓ Emphasize Christ's ongoing work in His church.
- ✓ Point students toward lifelong faithfulness and community.

YOUR ROLE

- ✓ Encourage reflection and ownership
- ✓ Celebrate growth through the series
- ✓ Emphasize hope and participation
- ✓ Encourage practical commitment
- ✓ Point students toward Christ's vision for His church