



**Present:**  
**The Miami Youth Leadership Initiative (MYLI)**

Dear Youth Leader:

We are extending an invitation for you to participate in the **Miami Youth Leadership Initiative (MYLI)**, which is a training and coaching program for youth leaders and their volunteers. The program is offered by Miami Youth for Christ and Impact 922 Ministries at no cost to participants. MYLI will introduce youth leaders to a tried and proven model of youth ministry, and is designed to enhance your effectiveness at what we consider to be the most vital ministry position in the church!

Participants will be guided to create a step-by-step strategy for reaching unchurched, non-Christian young people with the Gospel; discipling them to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ; and learn how to empower students to become transformational leaders before they graduate from high school.

The program involves 5 weekend training classes, over a 30-month period. We have also designed a system for implementation and accountability of the program. We ask participants to be committed to the trainings, and a willingness to implement the model of ministry being taught. Although we want to introduce ministry ideas that may be new to you and your ministry, we are committed to ensuring that the ministry model being taught is compatible with the vision/mission of your church/ministry.

Participants will be asked to turn in periodic ministry reports, gauging how they are doing in the ministry, and be open to meet with the MYLI staff to discuss plans for implementation and improvement. Regular classes take place at the Youth For Christ office -- 9350 SW 79 Avenue, Miami, FL 33156, but there is a weekend retreat that takes place in Lake Placid, and the Reload Conference which is held at a Miami venue. Dates and locations are listed below.

If you are interested in the MYLI program, please complete the enclosed application and scan and email it to: [Tommy@miamiyfc.com](mailto:Tommy@miamiyfc.com). Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I hope to see you in our next cohort in 2018.

Blessings,

Tommy Carrington, D.Min.  
Miami Youth for Christ/Impact 922 Ministries  
305-527-8871

## **Miami Youth Leadership Initiative Minimum Criteria for Participants & Cohort Details**

### **Minimum Participant Criteria:**

The following selection criteria will be minimum requirements for applicants. They must:

- Be currently serving in youth ministry
  
- Be in a position of leadership -- can implement plans for change. Volunteers may also be considered as participants in the program
  
- Be a learner -- open to change
  
- Demonstrate a willingness to be held accountable for the principles being taught (one-to-one meetings and ministry reports will be requested of the main youth leader)
  
- Be willing to complete a limited amount of outside readings and a few assignments.

### **2018 MYLI Cohort meeting days/times/locations:**

**Section 1      February 8 (7 - 9:30 PM)**

**February 9 (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM)**

Location: Miami Youth for Christ office – 9350 SW 79 Ave., Miami, FL 33156

**Section 2      April 13 – 15 “Refresh Retreat”**

Location: Lake Placid Camp & Conference Center –

Session begins on Friday at 7 PM, and ends on Sunday at 2 PM

Registration Fee: \$65 per person (Spouses, student leaders and volunteers welcome)

**Section 3      May 8 (7 - 9:30 PM)**

**May 9 (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM)**

(YFC Office)

**Section 4      August 24 (7 - 9:30 PM)**

**August 25 (9:00 AM – 4:00 PM)**

(YFC Office)

**Section 5      October 19 (7 - 9:30 PM)      “Reload Miami Conference”**

**October 20 (8:30 AM – 4:00 PM)**

**Location: TBD**

### MYLI Application

Name of Applicant (Youth Leader): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Church / Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor / Ministry leader's name:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Contact Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) Alt #: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Work/home)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Title / Ministry role \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years / months in your present position: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate numbers of hours you devote to youth ministry per week \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a full-time job outside of Student Ministry? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your position / title in that role? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### Ministry Description:

If you are responsible for the student ministry, on a separate page, please answer the following questions regarding your ministry (volunteers may disregard these questions):

1. Describe your target community, including the school(s) in your target area.
2. What is your ministry philosophy for evangelizing unchurched youth?
3. How do you propose to disciple those young people who come to faith in Christ?
4. Write a brief description of your current ministry responsibilities (1-2 paragraphs stating what you currently do in ministry)

**Miami Youth Leadership Initiative Agreement  
On Behalf of Miami Youth for Christ  
2018-2019**

Because of the nature of the MYLI program, we are asking participants to commit to the following criteria to the best of your efforts, with the understanding that sometimes things will come up.

**Minimum criteria for MYLI participants**

The following criteria will be minimum requirements for applicants. They must:

1. Be committed to attend all 5 weekend trainings in 2018, and renewable for 2019 (See above schedule)
2. Be currently serving in an active youth ministry (in a church or Parachurch organization)
3. Be in a position of leadership (can implement plans for change)
4. Be willing to implement “key” components of the MYLI model. Components will be clearly defined in training sessions
5. Demonstrate a willingness to be held accountable for the principles being taught (individual meetings and ministry reports will be requested)
6. Be willing to complete a limited amount of outside readings and assignments
7. Be willing to participate in YFC Fund Raising events whenever possible (2 events per year).

I AGREE TO THE TERMS ABOVE TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY

\_\_\_\_\_

Church/Organization Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Youth Worker Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_

Youth Worker Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

**Miami Youth Leadership Initiative (MYLI)**  
**Tentative Course Listing (Subject to change)**

**First Year**

**Section 1: Foundational Principles of Youth Ministry**

**TOPIC:**

1. Introduction to MYLI, Guidelines, Schedule, and Foundational Principles / Developing a Philosophy & Strategy for Youth Ministry
2. The Spiritual Life of the Youth Leader
3. **“Contacting”** – going into the teenage world to initiate new relationships & **“Building Time”** – Spending time with students to build new relationships and grow existing ones.
4. **Small Groups** – Meeting with several students to have an interactive discussion about relevant topics and connect them to God’s truth.
5. Recruiting, Training, Screening and Empowering Adults for Leadership
6. Understanding Levels of Youth Ministry
7. **“Strategic Programming”** -- Developing a Biblically-Based, Relationally Oriented, Well-Balanced, Creative, Youth Ministry Program
8. “Trips, Camps and Events”

**Section 2: Evangelism / Discipleship / Student Leadership**

**TOPIC:**

1. Introduction to Evangelism
2. Evangelism in a Post-Christian, Postmodern World.
3. Sharing Your Faith
4. Principles of Discipleship
5. Methods of Discipleship
6. Implementing a Discipleship Program – Nuts and Bolts
7. How to Run a Small Group

**Developing Next-Generation Leaders:**

8. Student Leadership Development
9. Involving Youth in Ministry

## **Second Year**

### **Section 3: Teaching the Bible / Effective Communication**

#### **TOPICS:**

1. Teaching the Bible Creatively
2. Qualities of Effective Teaching
3. Focusing the Message
4. Structuring the Lesson
5. Teaching Methods
6. Finding and Using Illustrations
7. Utilizing Technology

### **Section 4 -- Organizing Your Ministry**

#### **Topic**

1. Vision, Mission, Strategy
2. Time Management (Balancing ministry and Family / Ministry for the Long Haul)
3. Time Management Part 2 (General Office Procedures)
4. Events, Finances, Budgeting and Organizing
5. SWOT Analysis – Tools for Assessing Your Ministry
6. Better Safe Than Sued (Principles in Risk Management)

### **Section 5: Critical Issues in Youth Ministry**

#### **Topics:**

1. Sexual abuse issues
2. Understanding Youth Culture
3. Cross Cultural Ministry
4. Handling Discipline Problems
5. Teaching Teens about Love, Sex and Dating
6. Dealing with Sexual Identity Issues (GLBT)
7. Basic Principles in Counseling Teenagers
8. Teens in Crisis – How to handle Crisis Situations
9. Dealing with Angry kids / Dealing with Troubled Kids
10. Substance Abuse / Suicide / Cutting

NOTE: PERIODICALLY, ADDITIONAL SEMINARS WILL ALSO BE REQUIRED AND WILL BE ANNOUNCED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.