



Living Our Values in Lockdown

TRAINING



Churches that are open for learning provide training opportunities for their members to develop individual gifts and skills and promote services and ministries in the church.

Learning is a fundamental principle of life, and where there is no more learning, there is stagnation.

- › **This new situation requires us to learn new skills.** Organize a training event where young people can train the leaders of your church to use digital platforms. Besides that, young people can help to train church leaders in many digital skills.
- › **Work with a core team of 7-10 people that you have already identified as leaders.** Have personal online meetings with them talking about their Learning needs and training them for their ministry. Encourage every leader to train someone else for ministry.
- › **Encourage your young people to do a “Spiritual Gifts” questionnaire** that is available in your language (or use the “Spiritual Gifts Assessment” in the Useful links). Arrange a personal online meeting with everybody who did the questionnaire to discuss their spiritual gifts and to help them identify possible ministries that would allow them to utilize their gifts.
- › **Let young people design and/or lead some of the virtual activities and lessons you assign to your group.** Have a conversation with them afterwards to discuss their involvement, what went well, what they could do differently next time, and what skills they need to develop further.
- › **Create an online learning group among the members of your church family (WhatsApp, Zoom, etc.).** Choose a topic that interests you and invite others with similar interests to share ideas, resources and give comments. People can post texts, podcasts and videos to contribute to the learning experience.
- › **Encourage your members to consider taking some free online courses whilst they are at home during lockdown.** Many universities are offering all kinds of subjects for those who want to learn during this time of isolation (see Useful links). Another suggestion is using the *Adventist learning community*, where you can explore free online training courses and resources for different ministries, including youth ministry.

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- › Encourage your youth (and other members) to take advantage of this unique gift of time to disconnect a little from the Internet and **spend time reading a good book. Create an online book club.** This is a fun activity where everyone reads the same book within a set period, and then expresses their opinions, likes, dislikes, etc.

Useful links

- › Adventist Learning Community: <https://www.adventistlearningcommunity.com>
- › Spiritual Gifts Assessment for youth: <https://youth.adventist.org/Resources/Spiritual-Gifts-Assessment>
- › Youth Ministries Hub of Resources: <https://ted.adventist.org/youth-ministries/resources>
- › Online Courses from top universities: <https://www.edx.org>; <https://www.coursera.org/>; <https://www.skillshare.com/>
- › Book clubs: <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/bible-book-club/how-to-run-a-book-club/>

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