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Top 5 Needs: Resources

1 message

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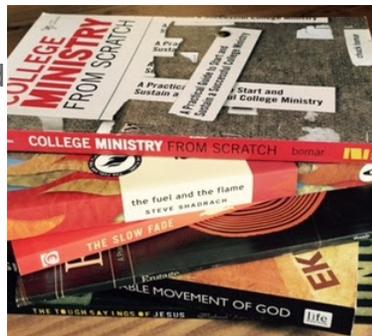
News & articles on church college ministry from TX College Church.

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Top 5 Needs of Church College Ministry: 3. Resources.

As we consult with church college ministry leaders and pastors in our state, there are some recurring themes.

I've chosen 5 of the most common to focus on as we start the year. Here is the third need.



3. Resources.

It can be difficult to find the right Bible study or small group resource for college students and young adults, and where do we start? What do students really need?



Pray 4 Go Now Discovery Weekend

This weekend students from BSMs and churches around the state will gather for Discovery Weekend. Pray for students as they seek to discover God's will in serving as Go Now missionaries this summer and fall. Pray for leaders as they serve students and take part in the decision making process. Pray that this would be a fruitful time of growth as we send more workers into the harvest.

How can we be sure we are connecting with them? Fortunately right now there are many good resources available for college ministry. Here are a few suggestions for leading students and a few to help leaders know this generation better.



1. Bible Study Resources

Lifeway has several good resources available:

Short term studies are available covering a range of topics or books of the Bible, like **Chase the Goose**, by Mark Batterson, **Connect the Dots** by Mike Hurt, **Birds and Bees** by Gregg Matte, and **Abide** by Jared Wilson. Some offer video segments to use in teaching. Most have study guides that can be bought and used throughout the week. These studies are also good for discussion based small groups.

Longer term studies are also available and can be part a curriculum designed for the whole church. Both **Bible Studies for Life** and **Explore the Bible** have components specifically for young adults. The Gospel Project does not have a young adult specific study but is customizable for young adults. Find these resources at www.lifeway.com/Bible-Study/Young-Adult

Life Bible Study is a good option and offers most studies online. Price is based on the size of your group. Both long term studies and short term studies are available and each lesson has a variety of teaching plan options including college/young adult. Long term studies are designed for a year and include **Yaweh: Divine Encounters in the Old Testament** and **Ekklesia: The Unstoppable Movement of God**.

Short term studies for small groups include **Awestruck: Celebration of God (A study in Psalms)** and **Collisions: My Expectations – God’s Character (Four key encounters in Genesis)**. Find these studies at www.lifebiblestudystore.com/.

Texas Baptist Collegiate Ministry has 3 series of studies for college students available through **BaptistWay Press**. Designed for small group study,

College Metro is in Texas this year!

April 4-6, 2016

The College Metro conference is for church-based college leaders and their spouses. This is your chance to be encouraged & equipped for ministry, specifically through worship, group sessions, round table discussions, and seminars. Whether you're a college pastor, college ministry staff, small group leader, Sunday school teacher, or volunteer, we'd love to have you join us.

Blake Arrington, Metro President and College Minister at Green Acres Baptist Church in Tyler says, "I came to Metro for the first time as an associate and then as a college minister. Metro has helped me network with others doing the work, given me encouragement when I was weak, given me ideas when I had run out and reminded me of what the Main Thing was. You do not want to miss this amazing time of rest and encouragement. God has placed you where you are for a reason, and He is using you! Come be the iron that sharpens iron, we're all in this together!"

Find out more info at collegemetro.com.

these studies addresses specific areas of spiritual formation that students are often missing. Find these Bible studies **available for free** from BaptistWay Press at <http://baptistwaypress.org/students/college/>.

2. Resources for Leaders of College Students

Here are some of our favorite reads for working with college students and young adults. These would be great to give to a college leader/teacher to help them better understand and connect with the students they lead.

Generation iY: Secrets to Connecting With Today's Teens & Young Adults in the Digital Age, Tim Elmore, Poet Gardener Publishing, 2015. Great read on this young adult generation and how we can connect with the.

College Ministry in a Post-Christian Culture, Stephen Lutz, The House Studio, 2011. An overview of college ministry in the current cultural climate and what matters most when engaging today's students.

The Slow Fade: Why You Matter in the Story of Twentysomethings, Reggie Joiner, Chuck Bomar, AbbieSmith, David C. Cook Publishing, 2010. Great read for potential mentors with college students. Helps in understanding today's students and why adults are crucial to their spiritual development.

College Ministry from Scratch, Chuck Bomar, ZondervanPress, 2010. If you're just starting a college ministry or a college Bible study, this book is for you. Bomar helps leaders focus on the essentials for college ministry.

Lost and Found: The Younger Unchurched and the Churches that Reach Them, Ed Stetzer, Richie Stanley and Jason Hayes. Lifeway, 2009. Still a great read on the cultural shift that has occurred and how the church can still connect with young adults.

There are many other resources that we could list, but this is a great start.

Got a favorite resource you want to share? Maybe you have one to add to the list? Share it with us [here](#)



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*Need help with your church college ministry? Contact
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