



Youth for Justice: Our Faith in Action

General Overview



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In partnership with:



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Youth for Justice: Our Faith in Action Overview

The JustFaith Ministries Youth for Justice series invites youth groups to explore contemporary social issues through the lens of the Christian faith. Youth ministers/leaders can put together their own programming to fit their group's needs by choosing from multiple topics. **Each topic consists of two, 90-minute session outlines;** one provides faith-based grounding in the subject matter, and the other walks you through either inviting a guest speaker on the topic or planning an immersion experience in your local community. All material is designed to be flexible, engaging, and relevant to high school students and even their adult mentors.

Program goals/objectives include:

- Explore how youth can live out the Gospel call to care for the marginalized and most vulnerable
- Cultivate healthy habits for spiritual and emotional wellness
- Build relationships with peers and adult mentors
- Develop strong leadership skills
- Provide opportunities for vocational discernment

Session Content

Each topic includes:

- opening and closing prayers
- contemporary songs/music
- videos that frame the issue, make a faith connection to the issue, and inspire a call to action
- questions to guide group discussion
- youth-friendly activities or reflections

In session one of each topic, the content is animated in two parts: **“Making It Personal”** and **“Changing the World.”** “Making It Personal” videos, discussion, and exercises focus on personal stories and the faith-based connection to the issue. “Changing the World” focuses on how individuals, organizations, or groups have (successfully) responded to the issue, and invites youth to make personal/group commitments to action.

In session two of each topic, the session outline provides ideas for lining up guest speakers or immersion experiences for your group, as well as a framework for facilitating the session, including prayer and questions for reflection and debriefing.

Session Timing

Every youth group operates differently; some meet weekly, some meet bi-monthly, some meet for one hour, others meet for two. Regardless of how often or how long your group meets, the content of the session is adaptable to meet your needs. For example, if your group only meets for an hour, you can divide each 90-minute session into two parts. If your group meets for two hours, you can supplement the 90-minute sessions with teachings related to the topic specifically from your denomination.

Topics are available to youth ministers for up to 12 months from the date of purchase.

Facilitation

Each session includes a comprehensive outline with directions for every activity, direct links to online videos and resources, and all necessary supplemental materials/resources.

Current Topics Available

The following topics are currently available:

- **Black History: Rise Up** - *honors the lives and contributions of African Americans throughout history and identifies racist systems and structures that are still in place today*
- **COVID-19: Kindness During COVID** - *lifts up the Christian call to compassion, especially during this time of COVID-19; invites youth to consider how they might address a need in their community that has been uncovered or exacerbated because of the coronavirus.*
- **Easter: Resurrection Hope** - *lifts up the Resurrection as the moment in our Christian story in which we are provided with an extraordinary sense of hope - hope that we can lean into as we work for a more just and peaceful world*
- **Environment: No Ordinary World** - *lifts up care of the earth and invites youth to consider how they might be better stewards of God's creation*
- **Fair Trade: Just Chocolate** - *designed to lift up Fair Trade and invite youth to consider how their purchasing habits affect people across the globe*
- **Global Poverty: Cry of the Poor** - *addresses global poverty and challenges youth to think about solutions to poverty that are effective, sustainable, and empowering*
- **Homelessness: Angels in Disguise** - *educates youth about homelessness (including youth homelessness) and the Gospel call to care for those in need*
- **Human Trafficking: Stop the Silence** - *educates youth about human trafficking (sex and labor trafficking) in our communities and across the world*
- **Hunger: We Can Make a Difference** - *lifts up caring for basic human needs and invites youth to consider how they might respond to food insecurity and food waste in their communities*
- **Immigrants: Bienvenido, Welcome** - *exposes youth to the stories and experiences of immigrants, and some of the complexities of the immigration process*
- **Martin Luther King, Jr.: Let Justice Roll** - *honors the legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his impact and influence on our conversations about racial and economic injustices today*



- **Peace: We Are Here for All of Us** - *lifts up our Gospel call to be peacemakers, to love our enemies as ourselves; session includes a personal reflection on forgiving others*
- **Poverty: An US Issue** - *lifts up some of the misconceptions about poverty in the U.S. and invites youth to think about practical and effective ways to end poverty in the U.S.*
- **Racial Injustice: Don't Let History Repeat** - *exposes youth to perceptions of people of color that have led to racial profiling and racial biases, and invites youth into conversation about the root causes of racial injustice. This session incorporates prayers and reflections on the recent killing of George Floyd*
- **Racism: Gotta Deal With It** - *defines or expands on our definition of racism and invites youth to learn how to become anti-racists and advocate for peace, justice and racial equity*
- **Refugees: Hallelujah, You Are Safe** - *provides some basic understanding of how a person is designated a refugee, exposes youth to stories and experiences of refugees in the U.S., and invites a Christian response*
- **Simplicity: What Matters** - *invites youth to analyze their desire for more and more "things" and cultivates gratitude and contentment. Youth are encouraged to embrace simplicity by not getting caught up in our consumeristic culture*

In addition, we welcome feedback about what other social mission-/social justice-focused topics you would like for your group. Please click on the suggestion prompt on our Youth for Justice webpage or email your ideas to us at info@justfaith.org.

Cost

Individual topics (includes two sessions) are \$40. Quantity discounts are available as follows:

- Three topics (6 sessions) = \$100
- Six topics (12 sessions) - \$175
- Twelve topics (24 sessions) - \$300