

Youth Devotional (W) (S)

Big Idea: Publish your teenagers' thoughts on living for God

Supplies Needed: paper, staples

Age Level: middle school or high school

Many churches publish annual Advent or Lenten devotionals with readings, reflections, and poems written by members of the congregation. Your youth ministry can also publish a devotional during these seasons or for special occasions such as retreats or mission trips. This devotional can add a personal dimension to your youth worship experience and can encourage teenagers to be more attentive in their personal prayers and reflections.

The devotional doesn't have to be large to be effective. And teenagers don't have to write long essays to make a point or share a testimony. Many will enjoy writing a poem or a paragraph on a theme.

During your youth meeting, distribute paper and pencils, and ask the teenagers to write down a reflection on any of the following:

- Event that shaped my life
- God-moment in my life
- Time when I felt God's strength or mercy
- Experience when I gave to someone in need
- One of the greatest joys I've ever experienced

Make copies of the devotional for distribution, or sell them as a fundraiser for a mission effort.