

SURVEY SAYS

How can you help spur on faith conversations in your teenagers' homes? Take advantage of your unique perspective as a youth worker to help parents and kids see what you get to see every day.

Begin by emailing your ministry's parents, asking them to reply to this question: "If you could ask your teenager one question and know you would get an honest answer, what would it be?" If everything goes according to plan, the parents should give you a nice list of interesting questions for your students to answer.

At your next youth event, save time for kids to fill out the survey. Explain that their answers

are completely anonymous, and that you'll compile their answers into a report for parents. Now comes the fun part! Gather your students' feedback and create ways for parents to respond in a healthy way. Then plan a parent meeting to go over your survey—plan response time and discussion groups so parents can hash out the results with each other.

You hear your teenagers talk about their parents and, in turn, you hear parents talk about their teenagers. This strategy will help you help them talk to each other.