



NextGen
Leadership

AN INTRODUCTION TO
**“BEGIN,” A LOCAL
CHURCH RESOURCE THAT
DISCUSSES IDENTITY,
THEOLOGY OF WORK,
INFLUENCE AND INNOVATION**

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Right now, high schoolers are making some key decisions about their future education and work, but the Church is often not present in that discussion. How do we start conversations that explore young people's education and vocation decisions AND help them begin to see kingdom possibilities, such as church planting or Christian entrepreneurship?

Session One: Launch Event Why We Start New Things (Start with WHY.)

1. Kingdom: Jesus' vision of the kingdom includes all of life.
2. Mission: We are invited to join in God's transforming work in the world.
3. Adventure: We approach our lives with a spirit of adventure.

Session Two: We Are Beginners (and that's a good thing) (Identify WHO is invited.)

1. Calling: You are called to follow Jesus.
2. Formation: Jesus teaches you "on the job."
3. Stewardship: Consider how you are using your life resources.

Lab: Understanding Your Story (Know why you care and what you have.)

- Testimony Writing, Self-Assessment, Personal Inventory. How has God gifted you?

Session Three: Beginning New Things (Focus WHAT we do.)

1. Spiritual Entrepreneurship: Greater than normal risks, greater than normal gains
2. Church Planting: The Life of St. Paul - beginning new churches
3. Holy Imagination: The Life of Joseph - redemptive administrative leadership outside of "religion"

Lab: Exegeting Your City (Know where you are.)

- Driving tour, demographics research. How does your church fit into your city?

Session Four: How to Begin (Equip HOW to work.)

1. Vision: Working with ideas
2. Leadership: Working with people
3. Adaptation: Working with reality

Lab: Kingdom Project (Practice beginning.)

- Champion Grant, utilizing student gifts and empowering leadership

Session Five: Celebration

- Invite guests and students as well as other pastors/key leaders.
- Celebrate, share stories, eat together.
- Give gifts and blessings to participants.

Begin Models - “Three Lanes”

Weekend “Intensive/Retreat”

- Cover the content in 2-3 days (around 8 hours of content).
- Benefits: Change of context & setting, very good at “building” one on another
- Costs: Too much information in too little time, not enough time for deep labs

Weekly “Youth Group”

- Cover the content over 6 weeks of 1 hr. gatherings
- Benefits: Easier bar for entry, sessions build while remaining distinct
- Costs: Large investment, may dilute “special-ness” of the invite

Monthly “Ongoing Development”

- Cover the content over 2-6 months of 2 hr. gatherings
- Benefits: Lots of time for labs/projects, low intensity for leader
- Costs: Too much time between sessions, too spread out to be distinct