



Session 11

Lesson 21: Administration of the Ministry - Part 2 Frontline: Lost Children of Rockdale County (PBS)



Quote

- “Behind every administrative task is the reality of the sovereignty of God – that is – the sovereign placement by God of each youth worker in their own unique calling, with their own unique gifts. This theological truth, when understood and embraced, will buttress each youth minister when the storms of ministry hit. ... The reality in many youth ministries is that the youth worker must be both a leader and a manager. He is a *leader* in that he must see the over all vision for the ministry and articulate that vision to those who work with him. He is a *manager* in that he must insure that the details are accomplished.”

-- *Starting Right*, p.346



Key Terms

- Delegate
- Time management
- Roles
- Lost Children



Lecture Objectives

- Identify ways to improve as an administrator in ministry
- Identify, describe, and analyze issues facing teens today and characteristics of how they and their parents deal with those issues



To Think About Before You Go On

- How would you describe the issues which characterize today's youth culture?
 - Today's urban youth?
 - Today's suburban youth?
 - Today's affluent youth?



Administration of the Ministry (Pt 2)

Whether you like administrative duties or not, leading a youth ministry will require effective administrative skills. Many youth ministers fail to understand this reality. As a result, they lead a ministry that is less fruitful than it could be and is frustrating to parents, students, and the leadership of the church. Many youth ministers are let go because they never learn the importance of competent administration. This is tragic, for many youth ministers are not, by nature, administrative animals. The following is a list of guidelines that can help anyone, particularly those who have no passion for administration, effectively administrate the youth ministry for which they are responsible.

Delegate Administrative Duties

- Learn the art of delegation
- Don't be afraid to ask someone to do something
- Give specific instructions
- Supply needed support
- Don't abuse an individual

Exercise Good Time Management Skills (See Sidebar)

- Recognize the benefits of good time management
- You will be able to accomplish more
- You will be better prepared to say no
- You will have less stress
- You will have more balance
- You can justify how you spend your time
- You will be a better steward
- Study good time management resources
- Attend a time management seminar
- **Purchase, use, and carry a day planner**

Organize Your Time ...

... According to our Roles

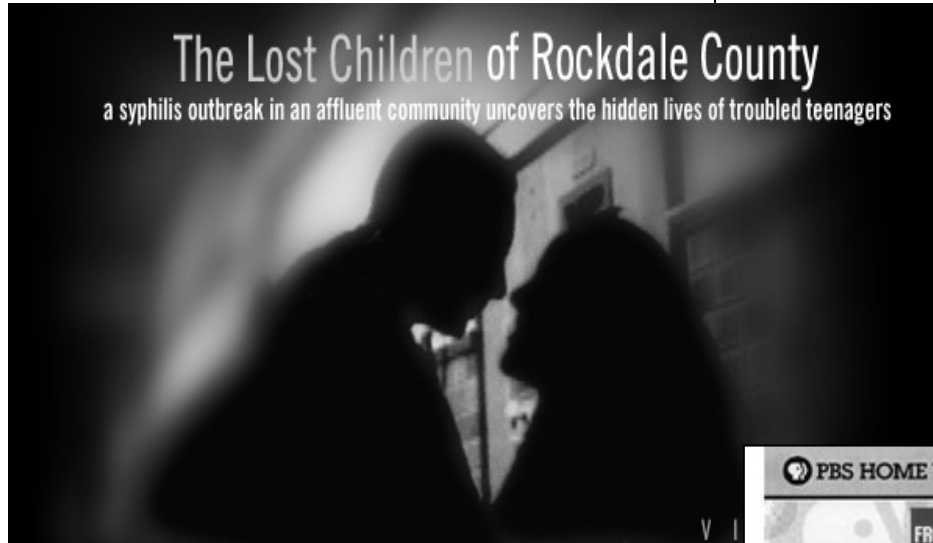
- Child of God
- Family
- Shepherd
- Teacher
- Developer
- Administrator
- Friend
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... Recognizing Roles Change (Long Term)

... Recognizing Roles Rotate (Short Term)

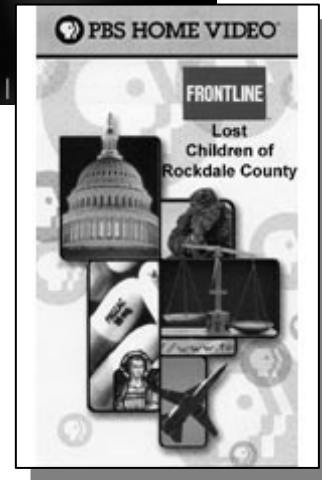
... and Plan your Time by ROLES not Tasks

Frontline: Lost Children of Rockdale County



It could be happening in your town. An outbreak of syphilis. Children as young as 14 engaged in all-night orgies and sex parties. Well-to-do youngsters defying societal stereotypes and standards. The acclaimed Frontline series goes to suburban Atlanta to uncover the truth behind this syphilis epidemic. Learn how one community struggles with every parent's worst nightmare: teenage drug use, sex, aimlessness, and cynicism. Watch this program - for yourself and your children!

For more information on the video and/or its contents, visit <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/georgia/>



A suburban community outside Atlanta, Georgia grapples with uncovering the causes and effects of a syphilis outbreak among a group of middle-high school children. This is a disturbing video and has significant implications for us in youth ministry and the church in general.

Pay attention:

- What is happening in the hearts and minds of the children?
- What is the church doing? Is it the right response? What was done well?
What was not done so well? Why?
- How can principles from Larry Crab's book, *Connecting*, be used in these students lives?

Observations and Thoughts Re. “Lost Children of Rockdale County”:

Discussion of “Lost Children” (Part 1)

Below are student comments as the class discusses the first part of “Lost Children.” Join the discussion online.

- “Just the stereotype that the kids in the suburbs, wealthy suburbs, would have steady parents and that they don’t face those issues because the only kind of kids that do that are the desperate ones who are in bad financial situations and have a broken family ... the girl said, “well, why don’t you leave?” “well, because then I’d be alone.” That’s just loneliness alone that would drive somebody to do that.”

...“Back when I was in high school it was the thing that you had to be dating someone then you could have sex and that was “cool”, but uh, random sexual acts like that with people you don’t even know just at a party, mass, messes like that, you know, in the suburbs, that kind of blows my mind.”

that having friends really impacts a lot in high school.”

- “I don’t think her parents know what to do, I mean, she talked about losing her best friend in the seventh grade and she was the apple of her parents’ eye and they thought, ‘Oh, gosh, you know she lost her best friend,’ and they didn’t know how to compensate for it and they saw her being sad and depressed and when she started going out with people they’re thinking, ‘Oh, great, friends.’ And even

if they might not have approved, they let her go ...
because they thought that was what was going to make
her happy and it wasn't that they didn't love her ... that
it, it's that ... you know, not enough action ... I mean ...
it's passive love.

- Angry. I think the producers of that little cut purposely put him down there hitting his bag. That kind of reminded me of myself when I was in junior high, I had a messy junior high experience, but I used to lift weights and just go 'rrrrrr', just kind of like he was doing with the bag.
- He plays-off being so intelligent, you know, so put together, calm and collected and really inside he's

- And I could tell that he was really longing for acceptance, willing to be running to friends so they'll be there, his friends ...
- Their lack of respect for themselves.
- ... you'd like to come with a pat answer of: 'basically their parents disrespect each other.' That would be so simple, but I don't think it is really necessarily that. You know, they see that their parents are gone all the time and even though they ... don't make the connect between 'my parents are gone all the time' and 'I have all this cash and I'd be really miserable without the cash!' You know? They think they need that, they think that's what life's about.

- They think that being doing 'adult things' that they're going to grow up or arrive somewhere or feel satisfied or whatever. I think they're just big, empty messes looking for something that makes them feel safe.
- "I think it's important to show them that there is value in life, because I think that a lot of them, you know, felt valuable when they were with other

people and accepted by them but it seemed like in themselves, they didn't see themselves as valuable or a vital part of anything, really. And I think part of [the] responsibility of a church is to show them that you are created in the image of God. And regardless of who you hang around with, or whatever, that you are still valuable to God and to the body of believers and hopefully to your family.

- "I have a 'female D.J.' [in my group]. I've had her for about a month. Some of the rest of the kids didn't know what to do with her. And it's like a 'puppy dog friend of hers' kid in my youth group that brought her. She came to me and she goes, 'Is it okay if I bring her?' She asked my permission ...