The development of youth ministry as a professional career and the distinctives of Liberty University youth ministry training in preparing students for youth work

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Date
3-15-1993

Department
Seminary

Degree
Doctor of Ministry (DMin)

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Primary Subject Area
Education, Religious; Education, Teacher Training; Religion, Clergy; Religion, General

Recommended Citation

Abstract
The purpose of this thesis project is to demonstrate that youth ministry is a viable discipline warranting appropriate career consideration for those called into ministry. This project documents the development of the distinctiveness of the Liberty University Youth Major in preparing men and women for youth work.

The first part documents the historical roots of youth ministry. Special attention is given to significant events, important personalities and founding youth organizations. Part two reveals how youth ministry became a profession. Ecclesiastical and sociological influences are considered. Section three demonstrates how Liberty University is responding to the need to prepare competent professionals.