



Family  
supplement

# Y<sup>2</sup>AAM

## Ministry Plan

2018-19

A Life of Offering:  
Offering our Prayer  
December 2018





# EFFECTIVE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

BUILDING FAITH TO MOVE **MOUNTAINS**

A new ministry course designed to help you:

1. **develop** a **vision** for ministry
2. **understand** the **challenges** to ministry
3. **implement** the **practices** of effective Christian ministry

EFFECTIVECHRISTIANMINISTRY.ORG

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# The Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan 2018-19

## A Life of Offering

### **Module 1: Preparing to Connect**

September 2018: Offering our Talents  
October 2018: Offering our Struggles  
November 2018: Offering our Conflicts

### **Module 2: Connecting with God**

December 2018: Offering our Prayer  
January 2019: Offering our Story  
February 2019: Offering our Sacrifice

### **Module 3: Living with Connection**

March 2019: Offering our Gifts  
April 2019: Offering the Gospel  
May 2019: Offering our Lives

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# Welcome to the Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan!

July 5, 2018

Dear Parent or Family Member,

Last summer, we launched the **Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan** to help Church workers lead Christ-centered and Kingdom-oriented ministry.

And, glory to God, the feedback was incredible.

This year, we're proud to unveil a new and improved version of the **Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan**, a tool to help communities and homes lead transformational ministry for the youth and young adults in their care.

We've created nine months of materials carefully designed for well-rounded, effective, and Kingdom-oriented ministry. Organized week-by-week and month-by-month, the **Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan** gives you a comprehensive set of tools that will help you lead ministry designed, not simply for the head, but for the heart.

After all, Christians aren't simply informed: they are formed. They are transformed into people who live lives of constant offering to God.

And it's all laid out for you, from the first week of September 2018 through the last week of May 2019.

If you ever have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us at [y2am@goarch.org](mailto:y2am@goarch.org). Please, let us know what you think: we're committed to creating a new **Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan** every year and constantly refining and improving the materials we offer you.

In Christ,

Steven Christoforou  
Director, Y<sup>2</sup>AM

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## Special Acknowledgment

The **Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan** takes the very best ministry insights and sets them forth in a simple, concrete, easy-to-use resource that can offer ministry workers help today. It reflects the great work of our Team, a fantastic group of people who have done (and continue to do) amazing things for the Church.

I'm blessed to work with them; their fierce dedication and humble love of the Lord encourage me daily.

We couldn't have produced the **Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan** without the hard work of Christian Gonzalez, Maria Pappas, and Christina Andresen who helped edit and review the sessions and offered invaluable feedback and suggestions. I'm also grateful to Kristina Wenger who generously took the lead in developing the Family Supplement and did outstanding work.

Yet I'd be remiss if I don't offer special thanks to Cassandra Garibaldi, Y<sup>2</sup>AM's Resources & Training Coordinator, for her unique contribution.

Cassandra continues to elevate this project. Not only has she been crafting the **Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan** for almost a year, she faithfully collected and reviewed all the feedback we received from people across the Church. As a result, I think this year's version of the **Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan** will be even better than last year's.

Her leadership and effort (not to mention the amazing final product) are an incredible testament to Y<sup>2</sup>AM's ministry vision and the incredible impact that committed, Christ-centered young adults can have on the Church.

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## How to Use the Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan

The **Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan** is a tool designed to help you lead great ministry. It's designed to eliminate the stress of finding or creating ministry resources, so you can be free to spend time with the young people in your care. So, as you flip through the **Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan**:

### **Remember:**

1. The **Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan** may be more than you need. We offer week-by-week ministry guidance, but your group may not meet every week. In practice, you may need to skip some of the lesson plans we offer. That's ok: feel free to use the **Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan** in the way that's best for you.
2. Calendar notes are suggestions, not requirements. While the **Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan** is designed intentionally week-by-week and month-by-month, this may not fit your schedule perfectly. That's ok.
3. Anytime you have questions about how to use the **Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan** you can always reach out to us. We're here to help.

Here's a bit more practical advice:

When working with small groups, it can be easy to let talkative people (leaders and students included) take over conversation. Small groups are also filled with people who process things in different ways: some may need more time and silence, some may need physical manipulation (writing, getting up, etc.).

Here are some tips that you can use to help your groups thrive in discussion:

### **Before each session:**

1. It is important to read through each session before presenting the session to participants. Be confident in what you are presenting.
  2. Note time allotments and have in mind what you would like to accomplish with your group during the session.
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3. Before each session begins, *pass out paper and pens* to each participant. This can help participants process their thoughts and reactions.

### **During each session:**

1. When asking questions, allow time for participants to reflect and write their answers down on the paper.
2. Read one of the main questions or Bible verses from the lesson and write it on a board. Give a few minutes to respond and then allow time for each participant to respond.
3. Try many different ways to engage conversation, and don't be afraid of silence; just because people aren't saying anything doesn't mean that they aren't thinking or responding.
4. Remember to listen before reacting.
5. If a question comes up and you are not sure of the answer, be honest and let participants know. Ask a priest and follow up with the participants. Be honest and true to yourself.
6. If you have a good discussion going on a topic, allow the conversation to flow. Don't feel like you have to ask every question or go through every activity in its entirety.

### **Remember:**

1. These sessions are a time for participants to share their own hearts, thoughts and feelings. They have much to say and offer, so try your best to be an active listener.
2. The goal is for participants to speak and learn, not to force a lesson on them for the sake of getting through the paper outline.
3. You are on a journey with your participants, and everyone is on a journey of learning together.

Thanks for letting the **Y<sup>2</sup>AM Ministry Plan** help you lead incredible, Christ-centered ministry.



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## Ministry Plan

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A Life of Offering:  
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# Family Supplement

## OFFERING YOUR PRAYERS TO GOD

We began this month's conversation on prayer by learning that we can offer our prayers up to God and why it is important to pray. It seems that prayer should be easy to do but true prayer is perhaps our greatest challenge. It is so easy for us to let our minds wander during prayer. It is also easy for us to say the words without thinking about what they truly mean. Prayer is a struggle, but it is an important one! True prayer begins to make us more humble. Humility is a very important virtue that aids in our salvation. We grow closer to God by humbly offering our prayers.

### For Discussion:

- How do we offer our prayers to God as a family?
- Is there a way that we can improve our prayer lives?
- How can we practice humility with each other at home?

*List some prayers and make a family plan of how to offer them to God.*



### Saint Story

Read the life of the Holy Prophet Daniel:

<https://www.goarch.org/chapel/saints?contentid=341>

How did Prophet Daniel offer his prayers to to God?

### Bible Verse

“But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly”

Matthew 6:6

### Be the Bee

Watch Be the Bee Episode #96  
“The Key to Prayer”

<https://youtu.be/eriCwVOahLM>

After watching, how can we connect to Christ? What makes prayer so important? How can we pray more as a family?

### Activity

Have each member of the family create a personalized prayer book. Non-readers will benefit from a small photo album with pictures. Beginning readers could use a small photo albums with icon cards and simple prayers. Other family members could fill a small notebook or journal with typed or copied prayers, leaving room for personally-written prayers.

*“Through Him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge His name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”*

**(Hebrews 13:15-16)**