

# 10 Assessment Questions Youth Workers Must Ask

As a leader we should always ask how could I become a better leader? Sure, you might read a lot of books, listen to podcasts, attend conferences, and have conversations with other ministry leaders but have you taken the time to personally assess yourself?

I have a lot of conversations with other ministry leaders and spend time coaching other leaders, particularly youth workers, who consistently overlook common problems areas because they aren't aware of some of the blind spots.

I've developed a helpful list of 10 questions that you can use to help you assess your ministry leadership a little better.

- 1. Soul Fuel:** Have I spent enough time caring for my own soul? Where is my emotional, physical, and spiritual tank level right now?
- 2. Leadership:** Do I have a personal growth plan and strategy to improve myself as a youth worker? Is it written down and visible? To whom have I made myself accountable for it?
- 3. Communication:** Am I listening to the people that I am leading? Are the methods I am using to communicate effective?
- 4. Accountability:** Am I spending quality time with God on a daily basis? Am I making my family top priority (and making sure they know it)? Do I have balance in my life? Am I upholding our ministries ethics and values?
- 5. Assessment:** Are the metrics I am using now different from the metrics that I used 5 years ago? Am I allowing other leaders (including other youth workers) to assess how we are doing?
- 6. Approachability:** Am I allowing time for students to meet (or approach) me? Has anyone in our ministry confided in me lately? Do students that I lead trust me?
- 7. Risk:** Have things become too mechanical in my ministry? Do people in my ministry avoid risk like the plague? Are the people that I lead resistant to change things because I am resistant?
- 8. Recruitment:** When is the last time I have recruited someone to help me lead in ministry? Are my leaders burned out or in need of assistance?

[continued]

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**9. Change:** When did I last abandon (or change) a program? What would another youth worker in my position change about our ministry?

**10. Development:** Am I investing in leaders and helping them reach their own potential? Is my ministry succeeding at the expense of individual potential? Is there shared success because I have helped equip each participant on our student leadership team?

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