

# Baptist Youth Ministries

## Values, Vision and Mission

### Purpose Statement

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“Helping Baptist Churches transform youth into vibrant, dedicated, contagious followers of Jesus Christ.”

### Core Values

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| <b>Prayerfulness</b> | We are dedicated to seeking the will of God in establishing our vision, mission and goals, and develop these areas in what we believe is a faithful response to His prompting.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Faithfulness</b>  | We are committed to faithfully fulfilling the primary call upon our lives to worship God through adoration, service and reflection on a daily basis.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Reflection</b>    | We are committed to a lifestyle and ministry that takes the time to reflect on the character of God illustrated in His Word, His People and His Creation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Flexibility</b>   | We recognise that as time passes social change inevitably occurs. We are committed to remaining flexible in our ministry so that the unchanging message of God’s love for His World can remain fresh and relevant. Furthermore we recognise and affirm the ideal that ministry is tending a garden rather than servicing a machine and as such every ministry situation is unique. |
| <b>Persons</b>       | We value persons over programs.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Generosity</b>    | We seek to reflect the generosity of God in all that we do; the use of our time, resources and abilities, and by a commitment to promote and financially assist missions around the world.                                                                                                                                                                                         |

**Above all other things the individuals who make up Baptist Youth Ministries NSW and ACT are committed to seeking God and faithfully following in the direction He leads.**

# Vision

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We see a unified movement of youth committed to a lifestyle of worship and mission, proclaiming Christ and producing Youth Ministry of excellence.

We see youth from every nation growing in Christian maturity.

We see Baptist Youth Ministries (NSW and ACT) taking a leading role in shaping Australian Youth Ministry - academically, philosophically and practically.

We see Baptist Youth reaching their God-given potential as partners with the Holy Spirit in transforming Australian young people into the likeness of Jesus.

We see Youth from Baptist Churches providing godly leadership within the Christian and Australian culture.

We see leaders committed to a life calling in Youth Ministry, and increasingly long term ministries within Baptist Churches in NSW and ACT.

# Mission

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| <b>Identity</b>    | We exist to provide identity for Baptist Youth by modelling vibrant relationship with God through the power of the Holy Spirit, principled teaching of the Bible and training for a life of ministry. |
| <b>Evangelism</b>  | We exist to provide young people with an opportunity to meet the God who loves them.                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Advocacy</b>    | We exist to support youth pastors and leaders in their local contexts.                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Training</b>    | We exist to serve youth pastors and leaders by providing exceptional training for the ongoing task of reaching and discipling youth within their Church and wider communities.                        |
| <b>Equipping</b>   | We exist to serve the Churches of the Baptist Union in helping create <i>sustainable, vibrant, effective, principled</i> Youth Ministry in the local Church.                                          |
| <b>Creativity</b>  | We exist to help Baptist Youth re-imagine Church and create new, edgy, effective worship communities.                                                                                                 |
| <b>Partnership</b> | We exist to partner with other organisations in advancing the Kingdom of God.                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Lifestyle</b>   | We exist to link faith and mission lifestyle in the lives of Baptist youth.                                                                                                                           |

# Services Provided

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## Evangelism and Preaching

Baptist Youth Ministries can provide gifted evangelists and teachers for youth groups, regional events, camps and other activities.

## Training

We aim to provide training for youth leaders and pastors at various levels, from very practical 'how to' seminars through to comprehensive youth ministry courses (12 hour weekend or midweek training – 2005) and practical theology for youth pastors.

## Consultancy

Baptist Youth Ministries is available to observe your youth ministry, interview youth staff and attend Church services to reflect a 'snap shot' of local youth ministry highlighting strengths and weaknesses and helping to formulate strategies for growth. From 2005 a team of specialists will be available for this work.

## Events

We are committed to ongoing, regular large scale youth events. We are dedicated to creativity, excellence and affordability in all our events.

## Camps

Baptist Youth Ministries runs camps at various stages of the year for youth including such things as a snow camp, rural and regional camps and youth spiritual retreats. We are also in the process of creating 'ready to go' camp programs to help local ministries run effective youth camps.

## Coaching

Andrew is available for coaching of youth pastors, and is committed to raising up excellent practitioners who in turn offer themselves in a coaching / mentoring role.

## Pastoral Care

Limited (critical) pastoral care for youth pastors and key youth leaders is available directly through Baptist Youth Ministries. In conjunction with the Associate Superintendent for Pastoral Development we can also refer appropriate pastoral carers.

## Spiritual Formation

Andrew and a network of skilled practitioners provide spiritual formation and direction through various means: Youth Pastors' Retreats, First Contact Camps and one to one direction.