

# YOUTH STRATEGY

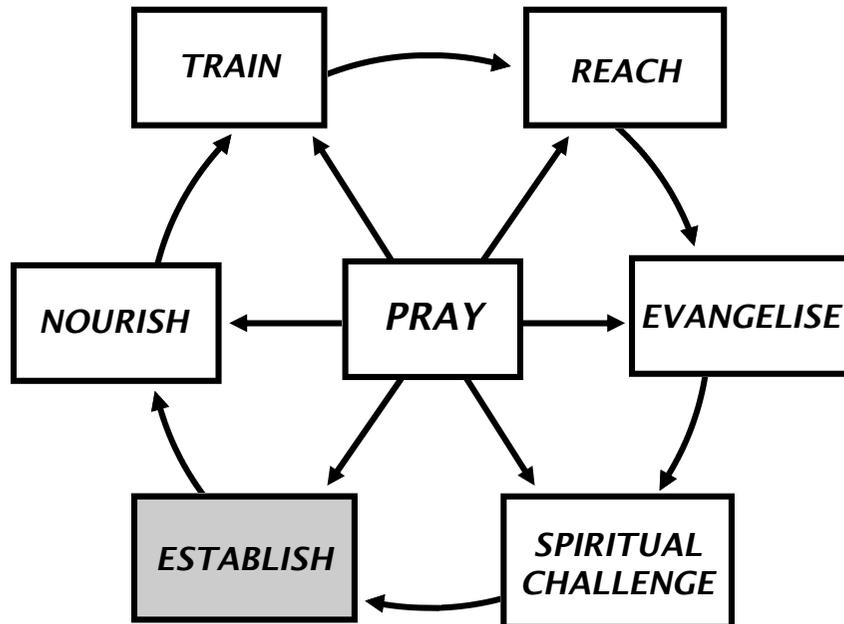
PRAY  
REACH  
EVANGELISE  
SPIRITUALLY CHALLENGE

## **ESTABLISH**

NOURISH  
TRAIN

*Ephesians 3:16-19* “<sup>16</sup>I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, <sup>17</sup>so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, <sup>18</sup>may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, <sup>19</sup>and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.”

A new Christian is at the start of a great adventure. Getting established is important for heading in the right direction.



# ESTABLISH



*“We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.”*  
- Colossians 1:28

# ESTABLISH



Whenever a planted seed begins to sprout it takes time to grow strong. The beginning of any new life is fragile and in need of care. See how many things you can list that a new plant would need to survive and grow strong.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Now consider a person who has just become a Christian. List all the things you can think of that they would need to survive and grow strong.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

## ***New Birth***

When a person becomes a Christian they are re-born. Jesus describes it this way in John 3:3 when speaking with a religious leader called Nicodemus. The same language of new birth is used by Paul when speaking of his own conversion in (1 Corinthians 15:8) and in speaking of the salvation that all believers experience (Titus 3:4-6). James uses the same language in James 1:18. Peter speaks in the same way in 1 Peter 1:3, 23 and 2:2. John also speaks of new birth throughout his first letter (1 John 2:29; 3:9; 4:7; 5:1,4 and 18). New babies need help to survive. New Christians also need help so that they can be established in their faith.

## ***Check It Out!***

### **Assurance**

1. Why does Luke write to Theophilus (Luke 1:1-4), Epaphras pray for the Colossians (Col 4:12), and John write his first letter (1 Jn 5:13)?

2. A big part of being established as Christians is knowing the certainty of what we have believed. What can be done to help new Christians know for certain that they are saved?

### **The Holy Spirit**

3. According to Mark 1:8 and Titus 3:4-6, Jesus washes people with the Holy Spirit. But even more than that, what do the following verses say about where the Holy Spirit resides? (John 14:15-17; Romans 8:9-11; 1 John 3:24; 4:13)

4. What does the presence of the Holy Spirit indicate? (Ephesians 1:13)

5. What does the Holy Spirit do within a Christian? (John 14:26; 15:26; 16:13; Galatians 5:22-25; Ephesians 1:17)

### **Gathering**

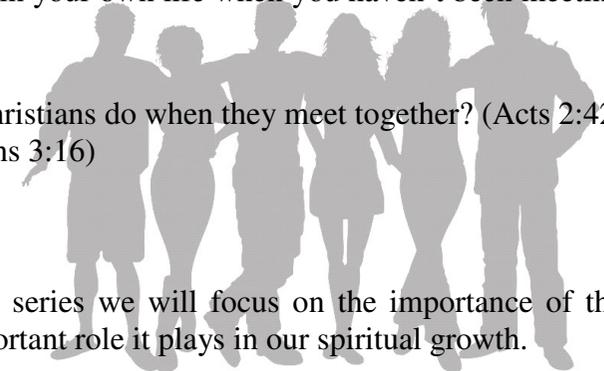
6. What are believers called on to do according to Hebrews 10:24-25?

7. Why do you think it is important to meet together regularly? What have you noticed happen in your own life when you haven't been meeting with other Christians?

8. What things should Christians do when they meet together? (Acts 2:42; Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16)

### **The Bible**

In our next study in this series we will focus on the importance of the word of God and the important role it plays in our spiritual growth.



*Pray together for new Christians:*

*to have assurance of their salvation,*

*to begin following the direction of the Spirit within them and*

*to continue meeting with other Christians.*