

He IS MOVING.

"...we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done."

PSALM 78:4 (NIV)

MINISTRY IMPACT REPORT 2026

YOUTH FOR CHRIST®



YFC USA LOCATIONS
AS OF 2025

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

DEAR FRIENDS,

As I reflect on this past year, I am deeply grateful.

The stories and data in this report are encouraging—not simply because of the work they represent, but because of what they reveal about God at work. He is moving in the lives of young people, leaders, and communities across the country.

Psalm 78 reminds us of our responsibility to tell the next generation about the "praiseworthy deeds of the Lord," so they might put their confidence in Him. That is both our privilege and our calling: to faithfully carry the Good News of Jesus to the next generation and equip young people to live fully devoted to Christ.

Throughout this report, you will see glimpses of that work. Behind every number is a young person known, a trusted leader showing up, a life being changed, or a community being impacted. Every one of those stories matters deeply to God, and to us.

As we look ahead, Youth For Christ is stepping into an ambitious new five-year strategic plan built around a bold vision: to see Generation Alpha known as a generation devoted to Christ. It is a vision that will require us to pray harder, reach farther, work together more closely, and faithfully steward every opportunity God places before us.

And already, we have the extraordinary privilege of seeing Him move.

Thank you for praying, serving, giving, and believing in this mission. Together, we get to join Him in reaching young people with the Good News of Jesus and equipping them to share boldly with the world around them.

Yes… He is moving. And I am deeply grateful that we get to be part of His work together.

With joy and gratitude,



Jacob D. Bland
Youth For Christ USA
President / CEO



HOW WE SERVE

Reaching Young People Everywhere

Across the country, Youth For Christ leaders continue to show up in the lives of young people, meeting them in schools, neighborhoods, military communities, detention centers, and wherever life finds them.

Through our ministry models, YFC reaches 11–19 year olds in pivotal moments, building relationships where they can encounter the hope of Jesus.

THE NATIONAL SERVICE CENTER HELPS YFC GO FURTHER—TOGETHER.

The National Service Center (NSC) strengthens and equips YFC chapters and leaders across the country by:

- Equipping leaders to reach young people well.
- Providing ministry and financial resources that support, strengthen, and expand local ministry.
- Fueling innovation to meet the changing needs of young people.
- Building partnerships that expand our reach and impact.
- Advancing our shared strategy to reach more 11–19-year-olds with the hope of Jesus. Together, we're helping local YFC ministries thrive—and creating more opportunities for young people to encounter Jesus.

176 NEW MINISTRY SITES

Planted in FY25–26, bringing the hope of Jesus to more young people through 6 relevant Ministry Models tailored to each community's unique context. A consistent place for Christ-sharing relationships and discipleship. As we pursue our five-year vision, we are equipping more leaders and establishing and strengthening ministry sites where young people can be known personally, encounter Jesus, grow as disciples, and share their faith with friends.

CAMPUS LIFE

Campus Life connects caring adults with middle and high school students, building relationships that help young people navigate the challenges of adolescence. Through friendship, mentoring, activities, and faith conversations, leaders help students discover hope and a growing relationship with Jesus.

CITY LIFE

City Life serves young people in under-resourced neighborhoods by providing consistent relationships, mentoring, and a supportive community. Leaders walk alongside young people through the challenges they face, helping them discover hope in Jesus and become leaders who make a difference where they live.

DEAF TEEN QUEST

Deaf Teen Quest creates a welcoming community where deaf and hard-of-hearing young people can build meaningful relationships with caring Christian adults and one another. Through friendship, shared experiences, and faith, leaders help deaf teens discover hope in Jesus and grow in their faith.

JUVENILE JUSTICE MINISTRY

Juvenile Justice Ministry builds lasting relationships with young people who are involved with the juvenile justice system, whether in their communities, the courts, or correctional facilities. Caring adults provide consistent support and mentoring, helping young people encounter Jesus and experience hope during some of the most difficult moments of their lives.

YFC MILITARY

YFC Military serves young people growing up in military families who often experience frequent moves, deployments, changing friendships, and other unique challenges. Caring leaders provide a consistent community where military-connected youth can feel known and valued, build relationships, and discover hope in Jesus.

PARENT LIFE

Parent Life walks alongside expectant and parenting teens as they navigate the challenges of raising a child while still growing up themselves. Through mentoring, practical support, community partnerships, and faith, caring adults help young parents and their children thrive and discover hope in Jesus.



MINISTRY OUTCOMES | FY 25-26

Every Number Has a Name. Every Name Has a Story.

Through authentic, Christ-sharing relationships, young people are discovering that they are known, valued, and deeply loved by God.

Conversations are opening doors to faith. Relationships are creating opportunities for transformation. And young people are taking meaningful steps toward Jesus.

Because of your faithful investment, this ministry continues to reach young people at pivotal moments in their lives, offering the hope of Christ and the steady presence of caring adults who walk alongside them. These FY25–26 outcomes reflect the reach and impact of a national movement committed to helping young people discover and follow Jesus.

Thank you for investing in a mission that is transforming young lives today while strengthening the movement for generations to come.

11,335

Decisions to Follow Jesus

We believe that if we're faithful to put leaders in authentic, Christ-sharing relationships with young people, the Holy Spirit will do what only He can do.

9,347

Young People Engaged in Discipleship

When young people come to Christ, we engage them in an ongoing discipleship relationship to help them learn how to follow Jesus faithfully.

6,856

Young People Connected to a Local Church or Christian Fellowship

Fellowship most often means a local church. Because the body of Christ spans multiple generations, a fellowship will sustain them through life, in a special way beyond YFC.

163,315

Young People Known By Name

A concrete measure of the total number of young people connected to YFC ministry.

51,180

Authentic Christ-Sharing Relationships

Our leaders initiate and sustain 3Story® relationships throughout the year. This outcome reflects leaders building authentic relationships with young people who don't yet know Jesus.

4,497

Christ-Sharing Relationships Extending to Friends

We love when young people who come to Christ catch a vision for reaching their friends. These young leaders are a proven part of our growth strategy.

85,819

Young People Engaged in the Conversation

Leaders and young people initiate conversations throughout the year. Conversations help leaders identify young people far from God and create opportunities to share Christ.

A NOTE ON REPORTING: *FY25–26 marked YFC's exciting transition to a new national reporting platform. Outcomes showed continued growth during this transition and provide a baseline for more robust reporting in the years ahead.*

MINISTRY UPDATES

Showing Up for Young People Where Life is Hardest

Behind cell doors, on military bases, and alongside young parents, YFC leaders bring something many young people have never consistently experienced: a caring adult who sees them, knows them, and refuses to give up on them.

MEET DAVID

David was a teenager in a Florida juvenile detention center when a YFC volunteer walked in and told him something he hadn't heard before: God loved him, and there was a plan for his life. David came to faith, earned his GED, and studied at a seminary. While still incarcerated, his changed life became such a witness that young men who were later released called YFC to share they had come to faith through his example. Today, David's parole has ended, and he is completely free from correctional supervision. His story reflects why YFC invests in lasting relationships with young people—meeting them in difficult places and walking alongside them as they discover hope in Jesus and grow into people who bring that hope to others.

JUVENILE JUSTICE MINISTRY

Leaders and young people initiate conversations throughout the year. Conversations help leaders identify young people far from God and create opportunities to share Christ.

161 active ministry sites.

4,180 young people engaged.

MEET GREG

When Greg's girlfriend first began attending YFC Parent Life, he had little interest in joining her. But over time, Greg began showing up and found a community that welcomed him as a young father. At a Parent Life camp, holding his baby in his arms, he walked to the front of the service, knelt at the altar, and surrendered his life to Christ. Today, Greg is a Young Leader in YFC's Leader in Training (LIT) program, and he and his girlfriend returned to serve as leaders at that very same camp for two years.

PARENT LIFE

Walking alongside young parents. Helping families flourish. Sharing the hope of Christ.

40 active ministry sites.

617 young parents engaged.

MEET AARON

Both of Aaron's parents served on active duty. By the time YFC leader Brian met him during his junior year of high school, Aaron had already moved eight times, with another move coming before the year was over. For Aaron, the hardest part of military life was having to start over, again and again. In the midst of that uncertainty, God was preparing a meaningful connection through YFC Military.

YFC MILITARY

When everything changes, God's love remains.

430,000+ military-connected youth worldwide, who move an average of 7–9 times.

10 military installations, plus sites in communities with a significant military presence.

READ DAVID'S STORY

READ GREG'S STORY

READ AARON'S STORY

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHT: SUMMER INTERN PROJECT

8 Weeks, One RV, and a Clearer Story.

This summer, Youth For Christ tried something a little different.

Before asking how to recruit the next generation of leaders, we decided to listen to the young YFC staff already in the trenches, leading ministry every day.

That became an eight-week journey with two Baylor University interns, Jackson Nugent and Drew Sheppard. Traveling by RV across the country, they visited YFC chapters, interviewed local leaders, spent time with staff and volunteers, and created behind-the-scenes TikTok content for their peers.

The project centered on a simple question: How do we help a new generation see themselves as part of the YFC movement?

We wanted to understand what draws Gen Z to ministry by starting with empathy. So we put two members of that generation on the road and asked them to listen, experience, and tell us what they saw.

One lesson stood out: the story of YFC is incredibly compelling when people get close enough to experience it.

JACKSON & DREW'S RECAP VIDEO

"The best recruitment looks like storytelling, relationship-building, and invitation."



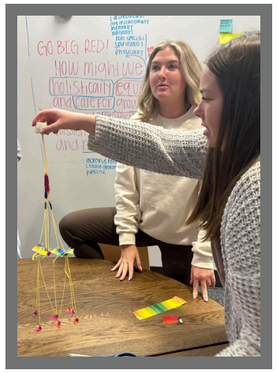
Jackson and Drew met leaders deeply invested in young people, ministries shaped by their communities, and people giving their lives to reach 11–19 year olds with the hope of Jesus. But experiencing YFC and discovering YFC are two different things. Young adults can't consider opportunities they don't know exist. If we want the next generation to imagine themselves serving with YFC, we need to show them what ministry actually looks like: the relationships, challenges, joy, and opportunity to make a meaningful difference.

The journey was an experiment, and what we learned is helping us consider how we tell the story of serving with YFC, engage emerging leaders, and create clearer pathways into the movement. The larger goal is to prepare the movement entrusted to us today for the people God is raising up to lead it tomorrow.

We sent Jackson and Drew out to tell the story of YFC. Along the way, they helped us see our own story more clearly.







LOOKING AHEAD

Kingdom Innovation Lab

Faithfully Responding to what God is already doing in this generation.

The Kingdom Innovation Lab (K-Lab) is being built to help Youth For Christ develop, test, and scale new approaches to ministry for a rapidly changing world.

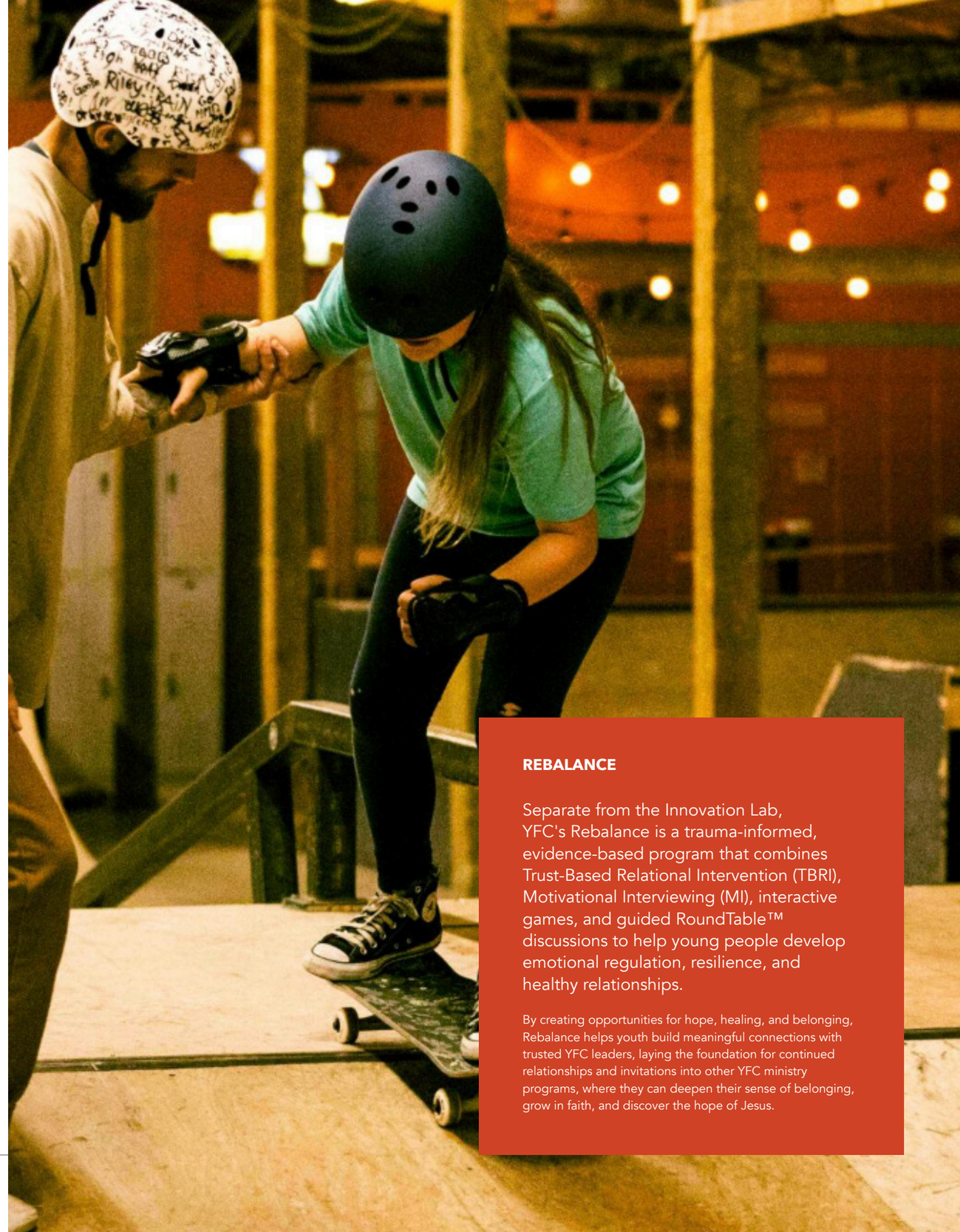
Rooted in a new framework we're developing called Christ-Centered Design, K-Lab will bring together ministry leaders, designers, innovators, and partners to better understand emerging needs, experiment with new ideas, and turn what works into practical solutions that can strengthen ministry across the YFC movement.

As K-Lab takes shape, one insight has become increasingly clear. Innovation, in this context, means faithfully responding to what God is already doing in this generation and meeting young people and ministry leaders where they are today.

By creating dedicated space and capacity for experimentation and learning, K-Lab can help YFC pursue its mission with greater imagination and effectiveness, sharing those discoveries across chapters and, eventually, with the broader Christian ministry community.

This early season has focused on building the foundation: developing the Christ-Centered Design framework, establishing the Lab's operations, identifying initial projects and partnerships, and preparing for the work ahead.

We believe K-Lab represents an important investment in YFC's future, helping the movement learn faster, take thoughtful risks, and discover new ways to reach young people with the hope of Jesus.



REBALANCE

Separate from the Innovation Lab, YFC's Rebalance is a trauma-informed, evidence-based program that combines Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI), Motivational Interviewing (MI), interactive games, and guided RoundTable™ discussions to help young people develop emotional regulation, resilience, and healthy relationships.

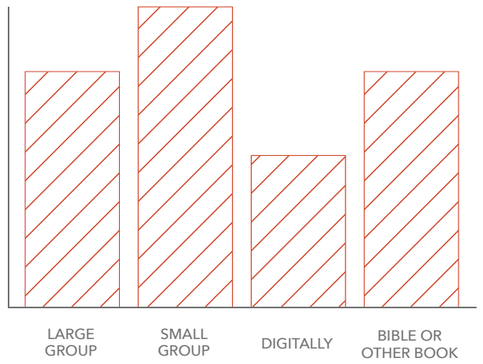
By creating opportunities for hope, healing, and belonging, Rebalance helps youth build meaningful connections with trusted YFC leaders, laying the foundation for continued relationships and invitations into other YFC ministry programs, where they can deepen their sense of belonging, grow in faith, and discover the hope of Jesus.



ADAPTING TO THE NEXT GENERATION

2026 TEEN DISCIPLESHIP SURVEY

How Do Teens Prefer to Learn About Jesus in Today's World?



1. *2026 YFC Teen Discipleship Survey, 438 respondents ages 11–19 across Campus Life, City Life, Juvenile Justice Ministry, Parent Life, YFC Military, and Deaf Teen Quest. Full findings are available in Listening Forward 2026.*

LISTENING FORWARD REPORT

TEEN DISCIPLESHIP SURVEY DATA

He Is Moving in the Next Generation

And what they're asking for is more: more Bible, more mentoring, and more time with leaders who will help them grow.

This year, YFC asked young people across every ministry model how they want to be discipled. Their answers, captured in our **Listening Forward 2026 Report**[1], are some of the clearest evidence yet of how God is moving in and through this generation.

Young people who believe in Jesus want deep and meaningful relationships with people they can trust who are willing to journey with them.

FAITH IS FIRST

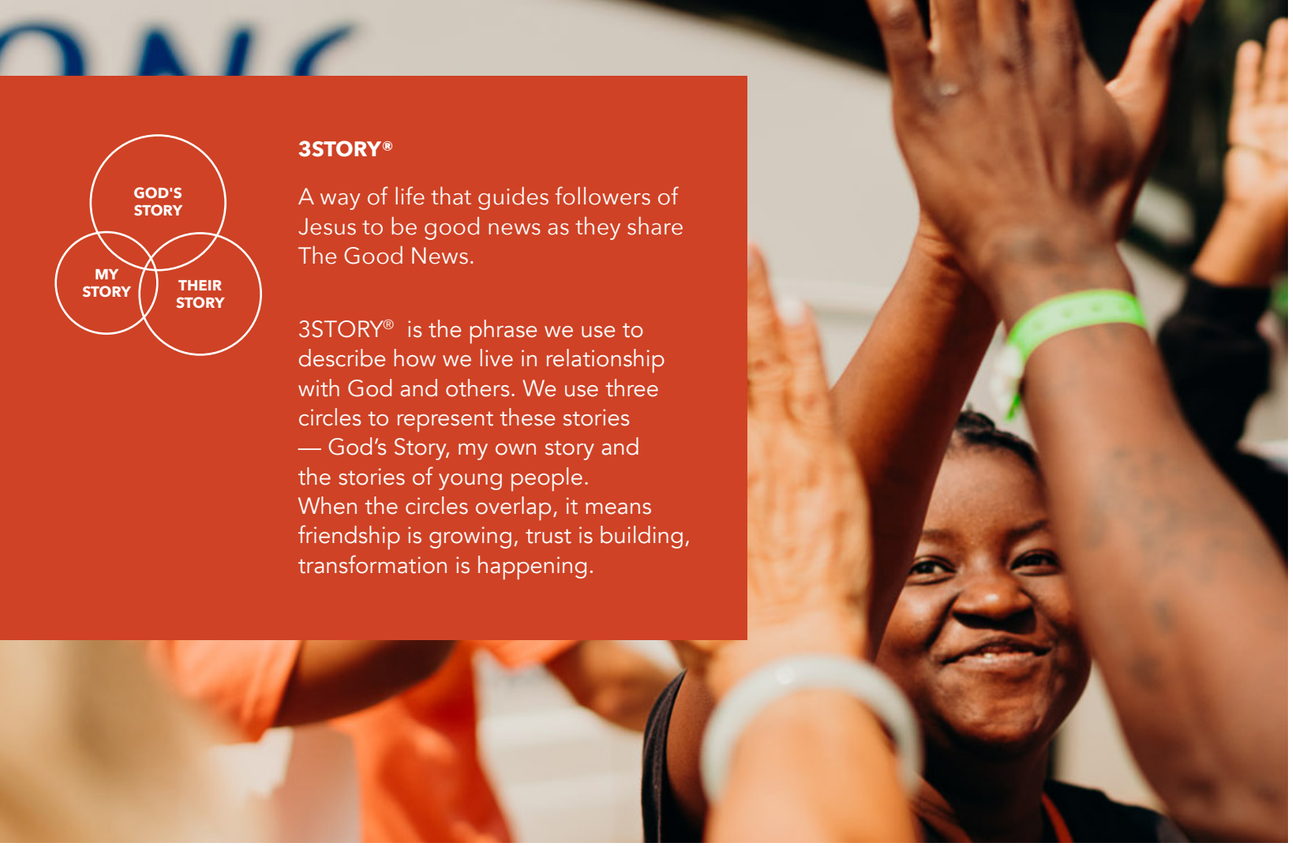
When asked what they enjoy most about YFC, young people **ranked growing in their faith first.** (Having fun ranked last.) It's a clear sign this generation is hungry for spiritual depth.

READY TO GROW

Young people want to grow spiritually—but busy schedules and distractions often get in the way. Only 6% cite lack of interest as a barrier, while 59% point to busyness and distractions. YFC meets young people in everyday life, creating space for relationships, conversations, and spiritual growth.

TRUST RUNS DEEP

Nearly 40% of young people said they would change "nothing" about YFC, and many others asked for more of what they already value, like Bible study, small groups, and mentoring. It reflects deep trust in YFC leaders and the relationships young people have found here.



3STORY®

A way of life that guides followers of Jesus to be good news as they share The Good News.

3STORY® is the phrase we use to describe how we live in relationship with God and others. We use three circles to represent these stories — God's Story, my own story and the stories of young people. When the circles overlap, it means friendship is growing, trust is building, transformation is happening.

NEARLY

9 IN 10

Young people have started a conversation about God with someone who isn't following Jesus. 31% do it weekly.

6 IN 10

Young people said most of their friends aren't devoted followers of Jesus, or they don't know where their friends stand.

"YFC has a significant opportunity to walk alongside young people as they mature in their faith and become lifelong followers and ambassadors of Christ."

LISTENING FORWARD 2026

LOOKING AHEAD

The Field Is Ripe

"...lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest."

JOHN 4:35 (ESV)

The harvest is right in front of them. Young people are already sharing their faith with friends who don't yet know Jesus and they are asking for help to do it well.

HOW YFC IS RESPONDING

YFC is listening, discerning how God is already moving, and aligning ministry strategy, resources, and people to engage these opportunities. *Listening Forward* calls leaders across the movement to:

- **Increase the number of disciple-making environments.** 52% ranked a small group of 12 or fewer as the best place to learn about Jesus.
- **Equip leaders to teach and model spiritual practices.** 39% said a leader who helps them understand the Bible matters most in a mentor.
- **Provide practical evangelism training grounded in Scripture.** 61% named fear or a lack of confidence as their biggest barrier to sharing their faith. Only 15% named doubts about the message.

THE FIELD IS RIPE, AND HE IS MOVING.

Together We Can Reach One More!

Something remarkable is happening in this generation, and we're deeply grateful you're part of it. Every number in this report has a name, and every name has a story. Behind each one is someone like you, praying, giving, and believing that young people are worth showing up for. Because of your faithfulness, young people across the country are meeting Jesus and sharing His hope with their friends. He is moving, and with your support, we'll keep reaching young people everywhere and helping them uncover God's story of hope.

PRAY

Pray for young people in pivotal moments and the leaders walking alongside them.

BE AN AMBASSADOR

Become a caring adult in a young person's story. Find a chapter near you at yfc.net/find-a-chapter.

GIVE

Your generosity helps reach young people everywhere with the hope of Jesus. Give at yfc.net/give.

YFC USA is committed to Godly stewardship of all gifts. For the most recent audited financials or 990 Form, please visit our website at yfc.net/give.

Youth For Christ/USA, Inc is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization in the USA, a charter member of Youth for Christ International, and one of over 100 Youth For Christ national programs around the world.

Local chapters are governed by boards of various sizes and are held to high standards of transparency and accountability. Launch Chapters are staff of YFC USA and are guided by local advisory boards.

The YFC Foundation supports the sustainability and growth of God's Kingdom mission through Youth For Christ and other Kingdom ministries. Today, it serves YFC entities and generous giving partners through: Asset-gift processing, Grant management, and Legacy-giving solutions.

PO Box 1810, Parker, CO 80134
303-843-9000
www.yfc.net

© 2026 YOUTH FOR CHRIST/USA, INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.