

A New Kind of Youth Ministry--Endorsements

"This book will resonate deeply with every one of us who are committed to being intentional and biblical about the way we reach and disciple students. Chris has put into words the discomfort many of us have been feeling about the evolution of youth ministry... and the appropriate response to bring it back to where it needs to be. Without diminishing the past he calls us to a new and balanced way of thinking about youth ministry. Because it's not a "how-to" manual it will give youth workers everywhere a framework through which to evaluate and then transform the work they do with kids and families. This is one of those books that will shape the face of youth ministry in years to come."

Dr. Marv Penner
Briercrest College and Seminary
Caronport, Saskatchewan, Canada

"I meet and mentor a lot of leaders and here is the truth...Chris Folmsbee is the real deal! I believe in Chris and sense that God has called him to be the bridge between old school student ministry and the emerging future of student ministry. He is a rare young powerhouse leader who is humbly pointing the way to walk in Jesus' footsteps. Listen to him, read his thoughts and follow his lead. If you do you will be on your way to effectiveness and impact."

Dan Webster
Founder of Authentic Leadership, Inc.

"Bravo to Chris Folmsbee for unequivocally stating that youth ministry needs to be thoroughly rethought--'recultured' to use his apt word. Indeed, it is now time for youth ministry to turn the corner into its future, and A New Kind of Youth Ministry should be the handbook for a generation of forward-thinking youth workers."

Tony Jones
national coordinator of Emergent Village (emergentvillage.com) and
author of The Sacred Way

Chris has written a book that is fresh, faithful and provocative. Styled as a conversation among friends rather than a treatise to be defended, each chapter's conclusion made me eager to see how he would treat the next important youth ministry issue. It's hard to imagine that someone could read this book without thinking new, bothersome, and exciting thoughts. Find it, read it, and let's start talking!

Dr. Dave Rahn
caught in a Kingdom partnership between
Youth for Christ & Huntington University

Chris Folmsbee is a breath of fresh air in the world of youth ministry. Chris is prophetic and passionately committed to the reformation of current youth ministry practices, philosophy and theological shortcomings. Chris advances A New Kind of Youth Ministry by presenting a more biblical way of thinking about the Spiritual Formation of adolescents. Sure, A New Kind of Youth Ministry will scare some who are fearfully trying to protect their ways of doing youth ministry, but Chris is in tune with the reality that the Holy Spirit is at work. The winds of change are blowing and Chris is inviting us to go along for the adventure. For God's sake and for the love of young people I hope we respond.

Mike King
President, YouthFront

Though I'm thankful for growing up in the best of a modern youth ministry program, as Chris insightfully describes them; I'm very excited by the path Chris introduces for an even superior experience of youth ministry. In the years since graduating from my youth ministry program, and my faith continuing to go deeper, I have stumbled through the exact questions addressed in this book. Far better than theories of a detached expert, Chris is deeply engaged in the joys and challenges of what can happen when we allow Christ to lead us in a needed remaking of youth ministry.

-Karen Sloan, author of Flirting with Monasticism: Finding God on Ancient Paths (karensloan.net)

FINALLY! This is what so many in youth ministry have been waiting for. Postmodern Youth Ministry by Tony Jones was prophetic as Tony revealed the skeleton of effective youth ministry in our postmodern world. A New Kind of Youth Ministry puts "meat on the bone" for those that know our modern day youth ministry is waning, resonated with Postmodern Youth Ministry but struggle to put it into practice. I believe that Chris (and Sonlife Ministries) is becoming a significant bridge between a wonderful heritage of youth ministry and the future of transformational youth ministry. A New Kind of Youth Ministry bridges this gap and is one of the most profound books on youth ministry I've read in over 5 years. Every youth worker must read this book.

Jim Newberry has been a youth pastor to MS and HS students for more than 20 years and has served as the Pastor of Students & Young Adults the past 6 years at Christ Community Church in Leawood, Kansas.

Chris' heart in this book is to provides thoughtful, fresh and Inspiring ideas and practices for youth workers in their efforts to develop followers of Jesus. He writes with the youth worker's best interest in mind as he uniquely approaches and invites conversation around tenets that have long been fixtures in youth ministry. "A New Kind of Youth Ministry" will be a lasting contribution to youth ministry and the art of making disciples.

Kent Julian
National Director, Alliance Youth
