



"A Place to Begin, a Place to Believe, a Place to Belong"

To Whom It May Concern:

Many youth ministers find it difficult to approach the subject of teen sexuality and related issues. We often find ourselves debating over what terms to use and when to approach the subject. We may even be fearful about the response that teens and parents will have towards the subject.

In a perfect world, all parents will talk to their children about sexuality and God's design for it. The only problem is...we don't live in a perfect world. In this day and age teens are subjected to sexual material at an alarming rate, and at an early age. Sex is constantly pushed in the faces of teens by TV, movies and the internet, distorting God's design for sex and polluting the hearts of our up-and-coming generation. We as youth ministers need to help combat these images.

We find ourselves with a choice: don't talk about sex and take the risk of parents not fulfilling their role, or talk about it and have a healthy discussion of why God created us the way we are. I personally choose to talk about it.

This is where Steve Holladay and Ultimate Escape come into play.

We had Ultimate Escape come to our church and present two Sundays in a row. Their straight-forward, open dialogue was not only effective, but welcomed. I have heard no negative responses from anyone. On the contrary, I've been given many compliments from various parents who are not my "complimenting type" parents.

Having an "outsider" lead this discussion was a bold move, but an effective one. The parents appreciated Steve's expertise on the subject, and, because of Steve's way of teaching, the teens responded very well. Steve didn't jump over issues, nor did he sugar-coat the facts. It's been a long time since I've witnessed that much attention from the teens in any class.

It's time we as youth ministers stop dancing around the issue of sex, and start having open and honest conversation. This is the best way to combat Satan's use of our God given sexuality to tear apart the lives of the teens we love.

I highly recommend using Ultimate Escape as a resource for you and your ministry.

In Him,

Aaron Johnson
Youth T.E.A.M. Minister