
D2S



**CERTIFIED
TRAINERS**

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DARE 2 SHARE

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Objective

This program has two objectives, first to equip and resource those with a passion for Gospel Advancing Ministry to accomplish their God given vision for transformation in youth ministry; second it is designed to recruit, train, and disciple a tribe of Certified Trainers who can create a grassroots movement of transformation as they are sent out to motivate, train, and equip those seeking a Gospel Advancing Ministry.

Goals

The goal for the program is to replicate 30,000 thriving Gospel Advancing Ministries across the U.S. by 2025. One of the primary tactics is to unleash Certified Trainers to bring about this transformation in youth ministry. In order to train 30,000 youth pastors in Gospel Advancing Ministry the goal is to have 40 Master Trainers and 400 Certified Trainers by 2020, and more than 5,000 Certified Trainers by 2025.

Definitions

☉ Qualified Trainer

- Any youth leader or student who has successfully completed Lead THE Cause is qualified to train the core materials at their own church or to other groups as long as it is done without charge. They have access to a limited amount of content and resources that may be duplicated on their own as long as permissions are included.

☉ Certified Trainer (CT)

- Someone who is officially certified by D2S to coach and train others in Gospel Advancing Ministry. CT's will have access to high-caliber training resources (speaking outlines, presentation templates, handouts, etc.) free of charge and will be able to purchase published materials at a discount. They are also licensed to charge an honorarium for speaking events that they set up. Depending on skillset and need, there may be opportunities to take on a role at D2S events. Certification will be renewed annually.

☉ Master Trainer (MT)

- They have been commissioned to help shepherd a small group of Certified Trainers. Master Trainer's have direct access to the Dare 2 Share staff. Greg and the Dare 2 Share leadership will mentor and guide them. Master Trainers need to have attended at least one Lead THE Cause (preferably with students), and have been in the Certified Trainer program at least one year. MT's may be invited to speak at D2S events.

☉ Master Communicator (MC)

- This upper-echelon of trainer is achieved by attaining certain levels of competency and trust and is on an invitation-only basis. MC's work with D2S leadership to drive the Certified Training program, discipling MT's and CT's, and feeding into decision making. They not only have access to all of the materials that MT's have, but they are also invited to speak at D2S events and on national stages to represent D2S and GAM.
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CERTIFIED TRAINER QUALIFICATIONS

Prospective Certified Trainers may be recommended by anyone within the Certified Trainer Program or a Training Coordinator at LTC. Applications will be reviewed and processed by a Master Trainer, Master Communicator, or the Director of Mobilization. All applicants will go through a qualification process (see below). Youth leaders interested in certification may apply online on the Certified Trainer page of the D2S site.

CHARACTER (who they really are)

- Ministry - references from pastor
- Family – phone interview with spouse

CONVICTION (why they do what they do)

- Interview with a Certified Trainer or Master Trainer.

CHEMISTRY (how they fit with the team)

- Group interview with a Master Trainer

COMPETENCE (how effectively do they lead and train)

- Leading a *thriving* Gospel Advancing Ministry (see pgs. 5-10 for explanation)
- Communication style and competency evaluated by video or direct exposure
- Agree with and sign statement of faith

CORE (mastery of D2S core training, based on references and observation)

- The GOSPEL Truth
 - THE Cause Circle
 - Ask, Admire, Admit
 - Now What?
 - Grace
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BENEFITS AND PROGRAM COSTS

Benefit

Along with the opportunity to network and learn from Greg Stier, the other Master Communicators and fellow Certified Trainers, everyone in the program also receives the following while certification is valid:

- License to train D2S material and include content in original speaking material.
- Registration, housing, and meals (not including travel) for training retreat. (\$250)
- Digital platform for access to training materials, communication, and community.
- Receive 10% off and a 20% commission for all D2S products that are sold using personalized Promo Code.
- \$250 discount on LTC for MT's.
- \$50 discount on LTC for CT's.
- 3 copies annually of the D2S Field Guide and Gospelize. (\$96)
- Attendance to D2S Live free of charge. (\$20)
- The ability to sell D2S product on consignment upon request.
- Photo, bio and link on D2S website.
- Referrals for speaking engagements.
- Dare 2 Share Certified Trainer logo for use on cards, website, etc.
- Priority consideration for re-certification every year.
- Monthly trainings with the Master Communicators.

Cost

Each Certified Trainer pays an annual fee of \$500. This fee covers the licensing fee to charge an honorarium for training events, the cost of monthly training that D2S provides, a 4-day training retreat in December, an updated and maintained digital platform, as well as various training tools and templates that the CT will have access to (Powerpoint, videos, speaking notes, etc.). Costs for travel to and from the 4-day training retreat are not included in the annual CT fee.

Each Master Trainer will need to pay an annual fee of \$250. This fee covers the licensing fee to charge an honorarium for training events. All of the other costs associated with the program will be covered by D2S as a gesture of gratitude for the time and energy that each MT will pour into the program throughout the year.

Master Communicators will not be charged an annual fee. This program is governed by the D2S executive team.

Gospel Advancing Ministry Overview

1. What is a Gospel Advancing Ministry?

A Gospel Advancing Ministry relentlessly pursues the mission of Jesus by relationally multiplying disciples resulting in radical Gospel transformation. It is a ministry philosophy that puts a primary focus on inspiring, equipping and mobilizing teenagers to incarnate and articulate the good news of Jesus within their sphere of influence. The values inherent in a Gospel Advancing Ministry can be adapted and adopted into any youth ministry model and customized to any youth ministry context.

2. Why a Gospel Advancing Ministry?

When Jesus commissioned his followers to, “*Go and make disciples...*” he infused the intentionality of Gospel advancement into the church’s DNA. This external focus (of making disciples) produces the incredible benefit of accelerating the discipleship process in the lives of the ones who are sharing this message. Put another way, teenagers who share their faith consistently are much more likely to own their faith personally and take their faith seriously.

3. What is a *thriving* Gospel Advancing Ministry?

There are five stages of a Gospel Advancing Ministry. The first two stages center around the youth leadership team personally owning the seven values and implementing the principles in their own lives. “*Everything rises and falls on leadership,*” so it is critical that leaders first model gospel advancement. While the journey through the following three stages isn’t without obstacles, the foundation has been laid and momentum will begin to build. Below is an overview of the remaining three stages that qualify a youth leader as a *thriving* Gospel Advancing Ministry and open the doors to the Certified Trainer Program.

Stage 3 – Jumpstart the Programs

Early Church Example – Church of Jerusalem

“They devoted themselves to the apostle’s teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the LORD added to their number daily those who were being saved.” Acts 2:42-47

The Jerusalem church was filled with a growing number of new believers who were committed to learning, growing, praying, worshipping and fellowshiping together. They had communion on a regular basis (“*breaking of bread*”) and were relentlessly reminded of the saving and sanctifying power of the gospel through Christ’s broken body and shed blood. As a result of their gospel focus, new disciples were plugged into the church on a daily basis. The church saw the impact of it’s leaders fully on board (Acts 2:42-43) with Gospel Advancing Ministry. Their very way of life has been altered. (Acts 2:44-46) Because of the commitment of the leaders, the entire church has begun to take on the DNA of a Gospel Advancing Ministry and as a result they saw incredible New Conversion Growth which jumpstarted the movement throughout Jerusalem. (Acts 2:47)

Stage three continues to see the implementation of the GAM philosophy throughout the youth ministry and students (usually the student leaders) are beginning to understand and embrace the call to make disciples who make disciples.

Outcomes:

- Youth Ministry program integrates Gospel Advancing philosophy.
- Student Leadership team adopts the Gospel Advancing vision and values.
- 3-5% new conversion growth.
- 5-10% of Christian teens actively share the gospel.

Stage 4 – Momentum in Ministry

Early Church Example – Church of Thessalonica

“For we know, brothers and sisters^d loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. The Lord’s message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God.” 1 Thessalonians 1:4-9

The Thessalonian church was a model of multiplication. It set the pace for other churches as it boldly spread the gospel. Although Paul had only been there for three weeks (Acts 17:1,2), the Thessalonians not only accepted the message of the gospel, but began spreading it to others in their region. The result was the rapid expansion of the gospel through one church in a powerful and exciting way. The church had endured many trials. (1 Thess. 1:6) Their commitment to the Gospel Advancing mission of Jesus set them up as an example to be followed for all the believers and churches in that area, and ultimately the world without any prompting by Paul they saturated their region in gospel conversations and set the pace for a Gospel Advancing movement (1Thess. 1:8).

Stage four has gotten messy. Students are sharing the gospel and leading their friends to Christ. The youth group is growing numerically and spiritually, other youth groups are asking questions about how you are “doing that,” and the rest of the church has taken notice of what is happening in the youth ministry.

Outcomes:

- Student leadership team models the 7 values.
- 5-10% new conversion growth.
- 10-20% of Christian teens are actively sharing their faith.
- Youth Pastor casts Gospel Advancing vision to local network.

Stage 5 – Exponential Growth

Early Church Example – Church of Ephesus

“He took the disciples with him and had discussions daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. ¹⁰This went on for two years, so that all the Jews and Greeks who lived in the province of Asia heard the word of the Lord.” Acts 19:9,10

The Ephesian church exploded throughout the entire province of Asia (all of modern Turkey) because of the investment that Paul had made in key leaders and the every day believers in Ephesus. (Acts 19:9) Leaders were trained, sent out. Believers made and multiplied disciples until every person in the province of Asia heard the gospel. This investment by Paul launched a movement of disciple multiplication through one of the most effective Gospel Advancing Ministries in history. (Acts 19:10)

Stage five is where the investment in leaders (both student and adult) is key. This is the *pay* off as leaders make and multiply disciples. It’s important to be structured for growth while maintaining a focus on Gospel Advancing Ministry. New believers and new Gospel Advancing youth ministries need to know what are their next steps.

Outcomes:

- Youth Pastor gains traction with local network.
- >10% new conversion growth
- >20% of Christian teens are actively sharing the gospel.
- There are multiple generations of disciples.

4. What are the main obstacles to a Gospel Advancing Ministry and how are they overcome?
- Apathy:** This is perhaps the greatest roadblock to evangelistic effectiveness. Christians who aren’t motivated to share their faith quite simply won’t make gospel-sharing a priority in their lives or ministry. Prayer and understanding the motivations to share their faith (Love of God, compassion for others, rescuing the lost, etc.)
 - Busyness:** Between sports, hobbies, work schedules, school demands, etc., Christians are increasingly busy. Evangelism can easily get marginalized or even eliminated in a hectic schedule. This can be overcome by learning to prioritize evangelism in everything they do (an “as you go...” philosophy).
 - Alignment:** Implementing a Gospel Advancing Ministry model works best when the church leadership (pastors, elders, youth staff, etc) are fully aligned with the vision and strategies. It takes prayer, gentle persuasion, kingdom impacting results and champions in key areas of leadership to create alignment ministry-wide.
 - Spiritual Attack:** The enemy will take notice and these efforts towards a *thriving* Gospel Advancing Ministry have the potential to attract significant opposition. Put on the full armor of God, walk in complete dependence on the Holy Spirit, and stay tight with other like-minded youth pastors. We have been declared overcomers, and that is exactly what we will do.
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5. What are the values of a Gospel Advancing Ministry?

The 7 Values of a Gospel Advancing Ministry	
Value #1	Intercessory prayer fuels it.
Value #2	Relational evangelism drives it.
Value #3	Leaders fully embrace and model it.
Value #4	A disciple multiplication strategy guides it.
Value #5	A bold vision focuses it.
Value #6	Biblical outcomes measure it.
Value #7	Ongoing programs reflect it.

Value #1 Intercessory prayer fuels it.

Intercessory prayer must be the engine of a Gospel Advancing Ministry. When you lead from your knees, you not only see your teenagers transformed spiritually, you also see them learning to leverage the same unstoppable prayer power on behalf of their campuses, classmates and communities. When intercessory prayer marinates deeply into the core of your youth ministry, then evangelistic efforts have true and lasting impact (Ephesians 6:18; Romans 10:1; Colossians 4:3; 2 Thessalonians 3:1; 1 Timothy 2:1-8).

Value #2 Relational evangelism drives it.

Mobilizing teens to lovingly and intentionally reach other teens with the good news of Jesus is core. As you inspire, recruit and equip teenagers for peer evangelism, they become increasingly adept at initiating and navigating gospel conversations. Teens who engage in relational evangelism get to witness firsthand the transforming power of the Holy Spirit at work in the lives of those they lead to faith in Christ! Gospel Advancing teens also grow deeper in their own faith, as they willingly risk peer relationship and popularity for the sake of the gospel (Romans 1:16; John 1:40-42; Acts 1:8; Matthew 4:18-20; Titus 3:5; Ephesians 6:19, 20).

Value #3 Leaders fully embrace and model it.

Jesus said, “A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher” (Luke 6:40). What’s true of a rabbi is true of a youth leader. If you want your students to prioritize relational evangelism, you and your leaders—both student and adult— must consistently set the pace personally. When leaders model a lifestyle of evangelism, then more and more teenagers in your group will follow your example (Luke 6:40; Acts 4:13; 1 Corinthians 11:1).

Value #4 A disciple multiplication strategy guides it.

Jesus took his disciples on a journey into deeper and deeper levels of discipleship during His time of ministry on earth. He did this with His followers in four stages. He took them from

Unbeliever

Believer (John 1:40-51)

Worker (Matthew 4:18-20)

Disciple-maker (Matthew 28:19).

The same pattern that Jesus followed should be emulated in your group as you disciple your teenagers. Like Jesus, you can prayerfully and strategically nudge your teenagers to the next level spiritually (2 Timothy 2:2).

Value #5 A bold vision focuses it.

Establishing a bold vision for your ministry inspires your entire group (Proverbs 6:6-11). A truly bold vision can only be accomplished in God's strength. It gives everyone in your group something to push for, pray for and praise God for, as together you strategize and strive toward reaching it. The biggest, boldest, best vision ever articulated is found in Matthew 28:19-20.

Value #6 Biblical outcomes measure it.

The New Testament is full of examples of how the early church measured outcomes. Here are a few:

- Number of baptisms (Acts 2:41)
- Church growth due to new disciples being made and multiplied (Acts 4:4)
- New leadership teams being established (Titus 1:5)
- Specific markers of spiritual growth of the believers (Hebrews 5:12-14)

When you measure Biblical outcomes, it provides you with a gauge by which you can assess your progress, identify weaknesses, spot opportunities for even more growth (best practices) and praise God for the fruit.

Value #7 On-going programs reflect it.

In a youth ministry setting, what is truly prioritized is programmed. When evangelism and disciple multiplication are real priorities in your ministry, they are consistently built into your weekly youth group program rundown sheet, and become a focus throughout your annual youth ministry calendar (1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Acts 2:42-47; Acts 4:31-33; Ephesians 4:11-12; 1 Timothy 2:1-8).

6. Where does the Certified Trainer program fit into the bigger picture?

Nation and Community

Certified Trainers set the pace for youth ministry in this country. D2S will be regularly looking to the men and women in this program for insights into youth ministry as well as for stories of how God is using Gospel Advancing Ministry to bring about transformation. Certified Trainers are a great blessing to their local church and community because of their commitment to the 7 values. It is the desire of D2S to encourage, bless, and serve those in the CT program.

LTC Expansion

Lead The Cause is in many ways foundational for establishing a Gospel Advancing Ministry. It's not the only way, but it is a rapid intensification event that will accelerate any ministry. Certified Trainers will play a critical role in preparing new regions for Lead The Cause and ultimately Gospel Advancing Ministry. As the leadership at D2S determines key regions of the country that

we want to target for LTC, the CT's could be sent into these regions to evaluate the landscape of youth ministry and provide feedback as to the spiritual temperature and receptiveness of Gospel Advancing Ministry. This input would then help D2S determine a timeframe for launching LTC in this new region.

7. What can I expect from Dare 2 Share?

Dare 2 Share is committed to promote this program through social media, our events, websites, boothing opportunities, and external events so that there is increased awareness of the program and new training opportunities for CT's.

Being sent into a new region involves investing in established relationships to generate opportunities for training teens and youth leaders. Generating these leads will be a collaborative effort between the CT's and D2S staff.
