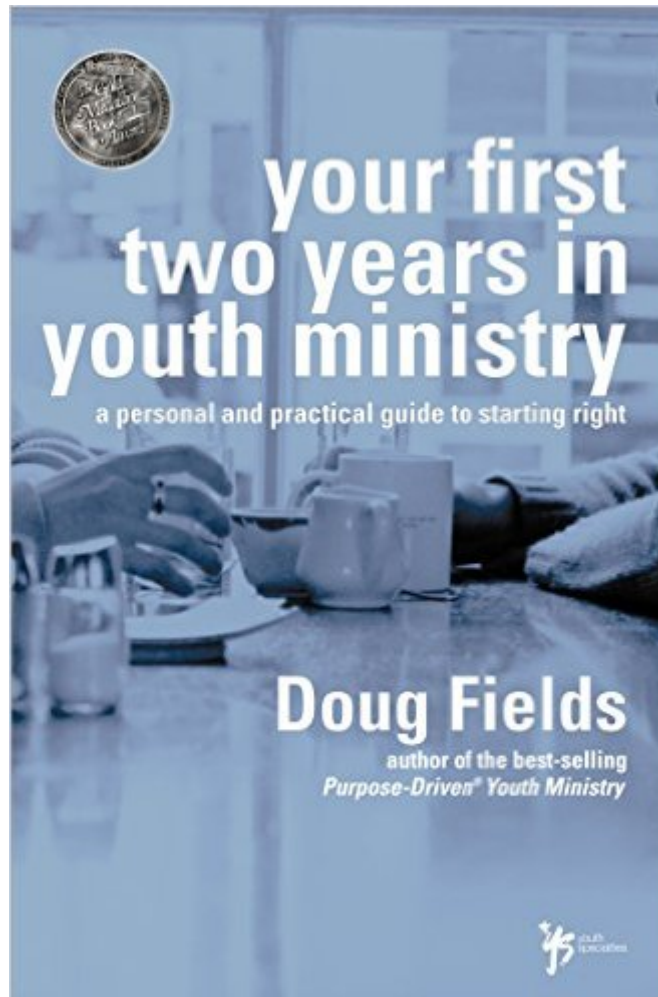


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# Your First Two Years In Youth Ministry: A Personal And Practical Guide To Starting Right



## Synopsis

Since forever altering the course of the youth ministry world with his best-selling, groundbreaking book, *Purpose-Driven® Youth Ministry*, Doug Fieldsâ™ mindâ™but especially his heartâ™has been focused on the many unique needs of new youth workers. Doug translated his passion, insight, and vision for his beloved âœrookiesâ• into what youâ™re now reading, *Your First Two Years in Youth Ministry*â™hands-down the most comprehensive companion to not only surviving, but also thriving, during the most crucial phase of youth ministry. Employing his renowned wisdom and humorâ™as if you and Doug were chatting over a long, relaxing mealâ™the author disarmingly relates stories and principles from his own successes and failures over 20-plus years in youth ministry. In the end, he offers treasure troves of practical advice, all in the hope that new youth workers can travel a smoother path and achieve real longevity in a church culture that all too often chews them and spits them out. Doug covers all-important issues such as: Â Dealing with discouragement Â Establishing a solid spiritual foundation Â Building effective relationships with students Â Resolving conflict Â Ministering to parents and families Â Trailblazing change Â Working with volunteers Â Defining a realistic job description Â And many others! In addition, a chorus of insightful sidebar voices joins your conversation with Doug, among them ministry veterans Jim Burns, Steve Gerali, Mike Yaconelli, Helen Musick, Chap Clark, Marv Penner, Rick Warren, Jana L. Sundene, Bo Boshers, Duffy Robbins, Tony Campolo, and Richard Ross, all whoâ™ve composed extensive, topical essays for each of the dozen chapters. *Your First Two Years of Youth Ministry* is a must-have tool for new youth workers, volunteers, seminary professors and students, senior pastors, elders, church boardsâ™even veteran youth workers whoâ™ve been ministering in unstructured environments and are now asking, âœWhat did I miss? What can I still learn?â• The first two years of youth ministry are never easy. But never fear. Doug fervently assures us: âœHang on. Hopeâ™s coming!â•

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Mean parents? Not everybody will like me? Kids won't remember all of my message points? The elder board might not think turning the baptismal into a hot tub is a good idea!? OH MAN! Maybe you're like me (a new youth leader) and you have a crazy list of "must read" books and you have no idea where to start. I know the feeling folks (I'm there right now). But one book that everyone agreed that I start with was this book. I was stepping into a ministry where the demographic difference (education, church background, age) was so different I had no idea where to start. Do I host a huge event? Tell stories? Go through 1 Chronicles!? AHHH! Doug Fields put together a very helpful, practical and honest book. The entire book is put together in a readable way. With writings from both Doug Fields and other ministers from around the country who are in the battlefield right now. The contributing writers do more than validate, but they relate the topics to their real world experience. Finally a book with more than just concepts and theories! First you'll probably read it straight through, but afterwards it will turn into a quick reference book. If anything just to re-affirm how you're going to handle a difficult situation. As a single new minister, I felt absolutely clueless about parents. What do they really want from me? A counselor? A listener? A babysitter? Doug very clearly lays out what parents need from you and how you can pour your life into theirs without telling them how to raise your kids. I loved it when he talked about parents being experts on their children, so don't treat them like an idiot when you don't agree with how they want to raise their own children.

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