

**READY
TO LEAD** 
CORPS › COMMUNITY › WORLD

OVERVIEW



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....	3
The CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused Lens	4
Discipleship Grid Overview	6
Base Level Experience	7
The Ready To Lead Model	9
Initial Connection Point	10
Menu Options	11
Monthly Connection Points	11

INTRODUCTION

READY to LEAD is a discipleship initiative designed for youth and young adults. On the @theREADY framework this represents students and emerging adults in both the Ready to STAND and Ready to LAUNCH age phases.

It's an individualized personal discipleship road map helping each participant assess their personal discipleship journey in 13 key areas (see "the CHRIST-centred OTHERS focused lens").

READY to LEAD aims to:

1. increase competency and knowledge,
2. strengthen spiritual growth,
3. expand hands-on ministry opportunities, and
4. raise leadership capacity

in each of the areas as the student and mentors engage together in the process.

The goal is for those involved in **READY to LEAD** to continually take the next best step forward as they become a CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused disciple of Jesus.

While the **READY to LEAD** initiative could be appropriate for many in your group, it is not intended to be a foundational discipleship experience for everyone. It works from a base discipleship experience (using Orange XP3 High School, Everyday Faith Skills, or Live a Better Story + Deeper Orange additions) that everyone can be involved in (see "Base Discipleship Experience"). Then, while staying engaged with that base discipleship group, **READY to LEAD** participants are those who:

- indicate a desire to take on a deeper discipleship challenge
OR
- are identified as someone who should, as a potential emerging leader.

Those who become involved in **READY to LEAD** then function as peer influencers in the base discipleship group. This allows weekly group interaction and study to work together with a tailored personal growth plan, leading to a deeper discipleship experience and enhanced leadership opportunity.



The CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused Lens.

READY to LEAD helps students look at their journey of faith through several key lenses. These elements work together to form a holistic, resilient expression of faith as CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused discipleship. They give us a strong, robust definition of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

These will be looked at in more detail as the personal discipleship tool is engaged by the students.

CHRIST-centred

A CHRIST-centred disciple commits to living out their faith in the context of the gospel story. It is a CHRIST-centred story, and is the theological context from which we engage the elements of healthy faith. This is the 'soundtrack' of our faith experience:

Canon

We believe that the truth contained in the Bible should form the basis for how we live our lives, make choices, act and react. It is a filter through which every element of our lives should run.

Holy God

We believe that the God we worship is set apart as the One True God, can be known personally, and has revealed himself to us through the story of scripture.

Redemption

We believe that sin is real and has consequences, and also that Jesus has made a way for us to be fully forgiven.

Inward Change

We believe that God's work in our lives is a continual process that changes us from the inside out, making us more like Jesus as we follow him.

Set Apart

We believe that we can live a holy life, and that this is made possible by the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Triumph

We believe that we can have a confident hope that God's good plans for the world and for us will ultimately be accomplished no matter what.



OTHERS-focused

We then live out this story as OTHERS-focused disciples.

Outward Facing

A healthy faith is deeply personal but it is not deeply private. This means having an effective personal witness that can be shared so that others can see God at work, living a life of mission and sacrificial compassion for the sake of others, and being actively engaged as a follower of Jesus in the world and in an individuals immediate circles of influence.

Tenacity

A healthy faith will make it for the long haul - it will 'stick' into adulthood. Tenacity is like the glue that holds it together, and it's made up of two critical things - healthy spiritual habits, and healthy spiritual community.

Holy Living

Both an experience of salvation (accepting Jesus' gift of forgiveness of sin and choosing to follow him) AND an experience of sanctification (being made more and more like Jesus every day) are important to a healthy faith. This isn't a one time decision - it's one that needs to be chosen and worked on every single day.

Engaged in Ministry

Both soaking in the truth of scripture AND living it out in real ministry experience are two sides of the same discipleship coin. Being equipped for and entrusted with real ministry at every phase of the discipleship journey is essential for a healthy faith.

Responsibility

Having a healthy faith means being responsible to God for all he has given us and who he is making us to be. This means being a good steward of time, money, talents, resources and relationships. It means relating and using authority in a way that reflects Jesus. It means making decisions in a godly way, and considering God's plans for my life ahead of my own personal ambitions, plans or goals.

Salvationism

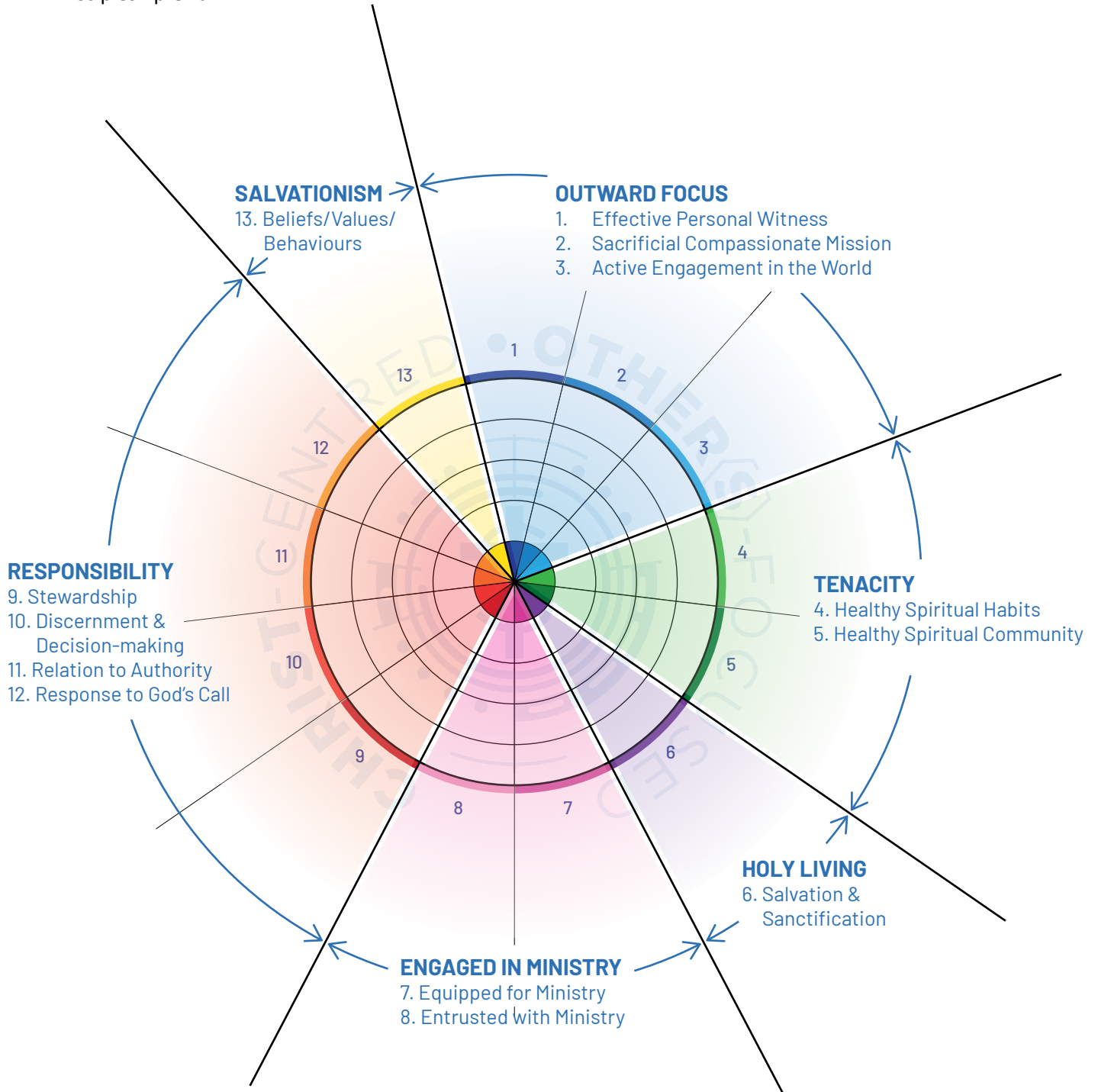
While a healthy faith can certainly be found in places other than The Salvation Army, the denomination that we're a part of has incredible impact on our journey, and it matters. Our beliefs, values and behaviours are part of how we express our personal faith.

OPTIONAL VIDEO TEACHING:

For a video teaching option on the elements of the CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused filter, use the Equalizer Training video at CANBDAYouth.com and watch from 15:11 - 26:14.

DISCIPLESHIP GRID OVERVIEW

When the thirteen OTHERS-focused areas are put together, they form the basis of the Personal Discipleship Grid:



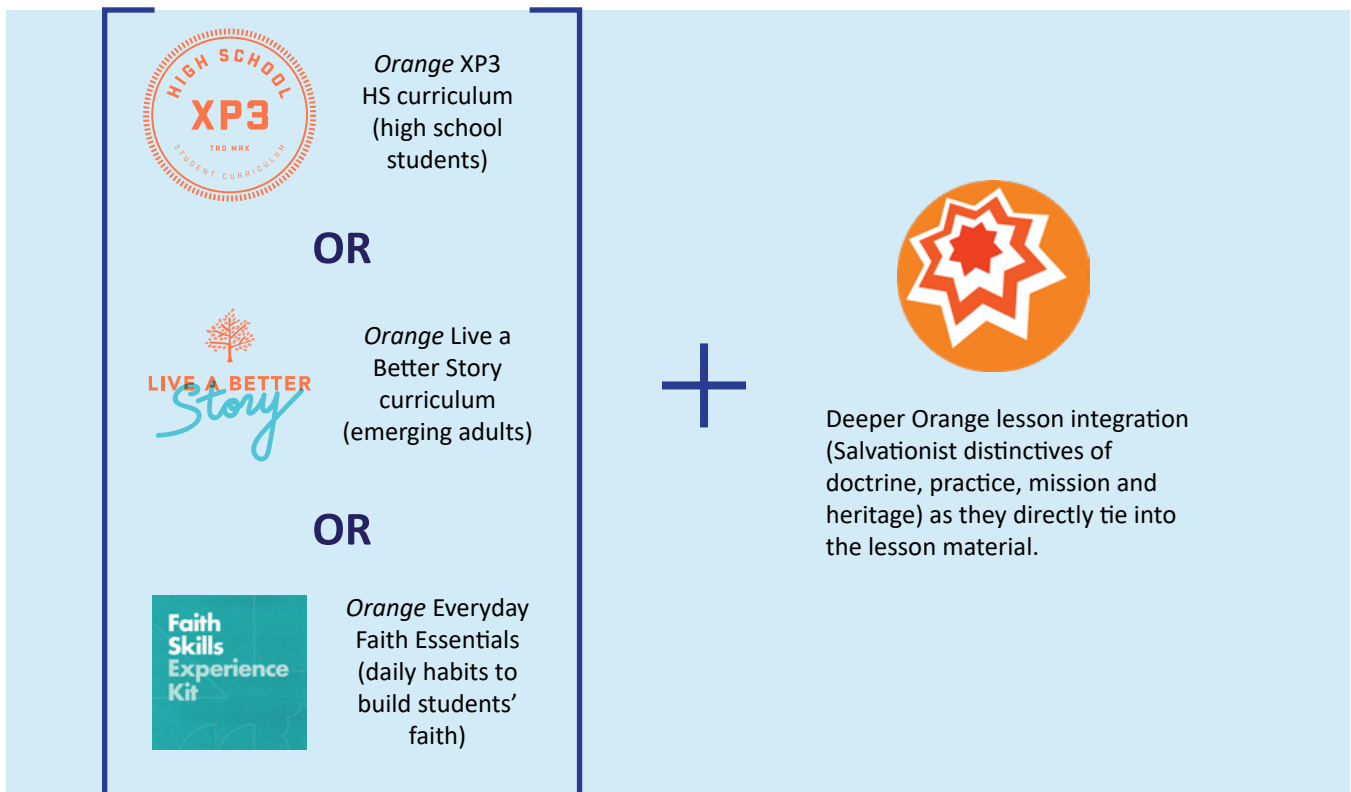
BASE LEVEL EXPERIENCE

All students in the Ready to STAND (high school) and Ready to LAUNCH (emerging adult) age phases should be invited to become involved in a small group discipleship experience. This is the **base level discipleship experience**.

Here, they will regularly meet to

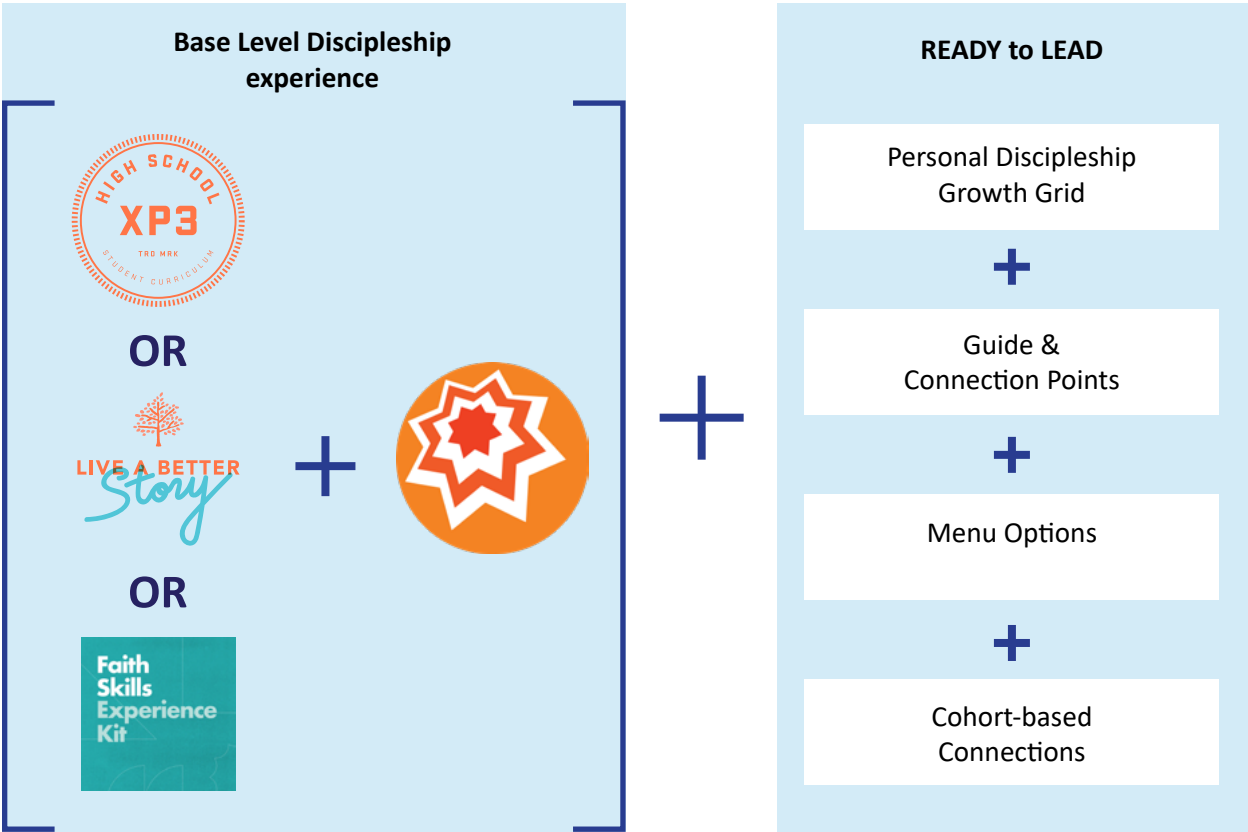
- learn from God’s word,
- engage their faith together in discussion, and
- commit to living out the truth of the lesson in their everyday lives in the week ahead.

The following is our territorially prescribed standard of curriculum for the small group discipleship experience for these age groups. This material is vetted monthly to confirm alignment to the CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused lens, as well as to Salvation Army theology and doctrine. For each series, Salvationist distinctives of doctrine, practice, mission, values and heritage are added to the Orange lessons by the Canada Bermuda Youth team, as they naturally tie to the lesson themes in the curriculum. We call this Deeper Orange.



➔ READY to LEAD is an *extension* for the base level discipleship experience, not a replacement for it.

When READY to LEAD is added to a student’s base discipleship experience, they are provided opportunities to engage in deeper discipleship and leadership development initiatives, while staying fully engaged with the weekly small group. READY to LEAD is an individualized experience where students and young adults work on their own personal spiritual journey as they connect with a mentor/guide, selecting growth activities that will strengthen their spiritual formation, increase their understanding of what it looks like to follow Jesus, and practise living out their faith in tangible ways. Additionally, they may also have the opportunity to interact in additional cohort-based connections beyond their corps setting, divisionally and/or territorially.



THE READY TO LEAD MODEL

Each READY to LEAD student will be matched with a READY to LEAD (RTL) guide. This guide might be a corps officer, youth leader, or other invested adult.

The RTL guide should be prepared to invest a couple of hours per month in each student they choose to guide. Depending on the number of students engaged in the initiative, multiple guides may be needed.

If the guide is the same individual who leads the base level discipleship experience, their time commitment will look more like 2 hours per week + an extra 2 hours per month per student. In some cases, guides may meet with a small group of READY to LEAD participants and work through the grid together as a group.

RTL guides will need to be trained in:

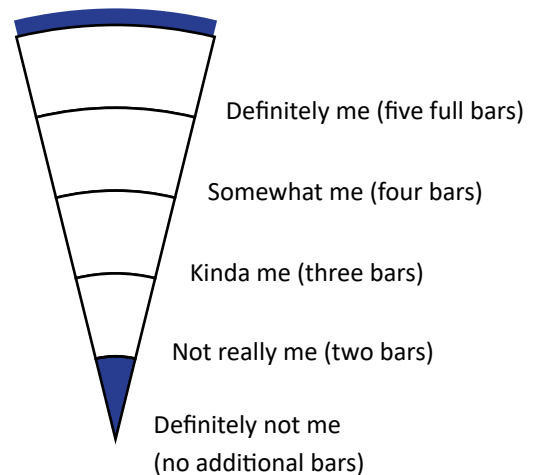
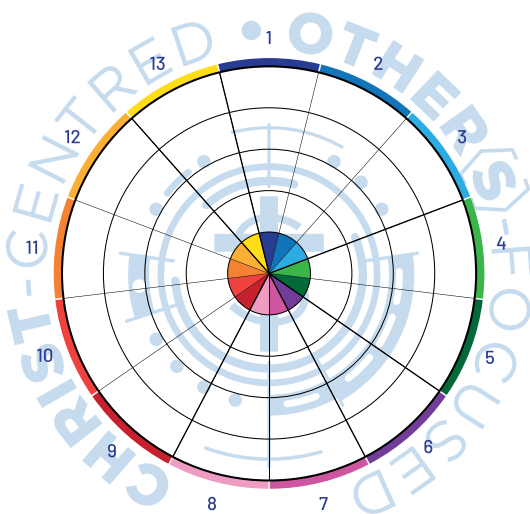
The CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused filters and the READY to LEAD initiative.

Students and Guides will meet for regular Connection Points as they engage with READY to LEAD:

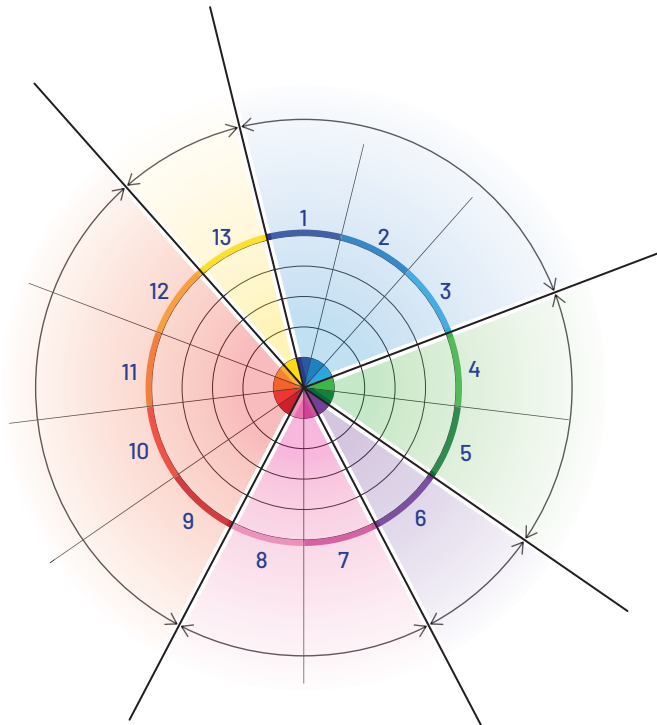
- an initial connection point, followed by
- monthly check-in connections.

Before the initial Connection Point, students will complete a Personal Discipleship Grid Assessment which will give them a picture of where they currently see themselves in the 13 identified areas of discipleship essentials (as identified in the DISCIPLESHIP GRID OVERVIEW” on p.6).

Based on the description of each area given, students will colour in each area of the Personal Discipleship Grid to reflect how they see themselves in each area:



Since discipleship is a lifelong journey of spiritual growth and formation, it should be noted here that the goal is not for students to reach a place of colouring in all five bars in each area, filling the grid, and considering their discipleship journey “complete”. It’s better looked at as an ever-expanding grid, that opens new levels of growth opportunity the more we learn, understand and experience about our relationship with Jesus. As we form a habit of looking at our discipleship journey through these robust lenses, we continue to grow in our faith throughout our lifetime. The Discipleship Grid Overview (p.6) gives the best picture of this idea of continual expansion.



Initial Connection Point

At the initial Connection Point, RTL students and guides will walk through the completed Personal Discipleship Grid together, noting areas where the student felt the descriptions most resembled them, and areas where the descriptions least resembled them.

Together, identify an area or two that will become the focus for the next month. Remember, the aim is for both high and lower areas to continue moving forward.

Using the Menu Options, which correspond to each discipleship essentials area, choose one or two options to help provide deeper discipleship experiences and/or leadership development opportunities for the student in the areas of focus for the month ahead. Students can use the journal page to track their progress.

Determine a rhythm of connecting once per month.

Menu Options

Each area is resourced with Menu Options that look at the discipleship essentials from the grid, giving choices of steps that can be taken over the month ahead in each of the 13 focus areas. These menu options are designed to:



1. Increase self-knowledge and Biblical understanding
2. Encourage healthy spiritual formation
3. Provide hands-on ministry experience and develop leadership capacity

(Indicated by the respective symbols - brain, heart, hand.)

The Menu Options are organic and will be regularly updated with new ideas. Here's where you can find the current menu options at CANBDAYouth.com:



Monthly Connection Points

During each monthly Connection Point, students and guides will discuss progress made in each of the chosen areas, focusing on areas of:

- personal spiritual growth,
- personal learning, and
- the experience of hands-on opportunities.

Use the student's completed journal pages to guide the conversation.

Together, choose the focus areas to be worked on during the upcoming month. This may include choosing a new area of focus or continuing work in a previously chosen area.

The overall goal is to continue taking steps forward in each of the 13 areas throughout the participant's involvement, adding new rhythms to the student's discipleship journey over time.