

# MINISTRY MINUTE



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## READY TO LEAD

Does your corps have high school students and young adults who are looking to take their discipleship journey a “next step forward”? Do you see emerging leadership potential in their lives? READY to LEAD is designed for those in grades 9-12 and young adults, who want to see their faith integrated into their daily lives in new ways, while helping prepare them as leaders in their corps, community, and world.



### Going Deeper

READY to LEAD builds on (but doesn't replace) an already existing foundational discipleship program and strategy. Teens and young adults should be involved in a small group using either Orange XP3 for High School, or Live a Better Story (for adults) curriculum. This curriculum is supplemented by Canada Bermuda Youth's Deeper Orange resourcing, as well as personal Bible reading plans that support each curriculum series, through the YouVersion Bible app.

Youth and young adults who want to go deeper by beginning to establish a rhythm of life while participating in purposeful relationships that will help strengthen their faith, are encouraged to use READY to LEAD. ...Or maybe, they haven't yet seen it in themselves, but you see the potential in them as emerging leaders. Help prepare them to be READY to LEAD by engaging them in this customized “choose your own adventure” discipleship tool.



### How Does READY to LEAD Work?

READY to LEAD is designed to help youth and young adults take steps forward as CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused disciples, preparing them to lead by faith in their corps, community, and world.

#### Step ONE: Connect

Identify a Connection Point. This will be the purposeful relationship that keeps the READY to LEAD initiative moving forward in a young person's life. This Connection Point will look different, depending on the context. For some, it will be a small group. For others, a mentoring relationship. Young adults might choose to connect in mutual accountability friendships. And others might find their Connection Point online with youth or leaders from another corps or within your division.

Once identified, determine how frequently — and when — the Connection Point will meet.

#### Step TWO: Reflect

Each person in the Connection Point will complete the READY to LEAD Personal Grid (*including leaders or mentors*). This will be what individuals continually reflect on, to help them determine “next steps forward” in specific areas impacting their journey as CHRIST-centred, OTHERS-focused disciples. Initially, youth will take the time to read and reflect on Definitions related to each area of the OTHER(S) Lens, filling out their Personal Grid, indicating how well they feel the definition currently describes them. (\*It's not a test or a score. And it's not in comparison to others. This is to help individuals get a picture of “where they see themselves now” in specific aspects of faith development and expression.)

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Next, have a conversation about *why* each person completed their Grid as they did. (This will require sharing what each person's Grid looks like, within the Connection Point.) READY to LEAD (...and really, discipleship) is not a solo journey, it's a shared one!

## Step THREE: Select

Once the Personal Grid is complete, individuals will notice that there are areas they feel "definitely describe me", "kinda describes me", "doesn't describe me at all", or somewhere in between these. Each individual will then choose *one area* that they would like to take a "next step forward" within. (Every person in the Connection Point can choose their own area. The group doesn't need to decide on one together.)

After each person's area of focus is chosen, individuals will scan a QR code in their student worksheets, leading them to a READY to LEAD Insider page on the Canada Bermuda Youth website, where they will find a list of "Menu Options". Menu Options are ideas of steps that can be taken in each area, to help individuals take steps of growth in knowledge, character formation, or practical hands-on application. Each person will choose the Menu Option that indicates the step they would like to take between now and when the Connection Point meets again to "check in" with each other on how the steps have been going (this might be a week or two or maybe up to a month — whatever your Connection Point thinks will work best in your context. The point is to keep it consistent and purposeful, without too much time in between meeting together). Each person will share their chosen Menu Option with others in the Connection Point, so that the group can encourage and pray for one another.

## Step FOUR: Affect

Each person takes the step they have decided on (their Menu Option) during the time period set by your Connection Point. Reconnect at your agreed upon date and time (looping back to Step ONE), and use the Path to Effective Connection Points to guide your conversation about each person's journey so far: What have people learned about their chosen area, about God or themselves, through taking their steps? What change have they noticed in themselves (or have others noticed in them)? What is God laying on their hearts, or how have they sensed him guiding them? What has been challenging or rewarding? etc. Allow the conversation to be shaped by the journeys of each person's experience in taking their steps.

Then move on to Step TWO again — but this time, individuals won't need to fill out the Personal Grid, but only use the completed version from your first meeting, to ask "What's my next best step?" For some, this might be continuing the step they have been taking. Others may choose to take a new step (a new Menu Option) in the same area of focus. And others might choose to take a step in a completely new area. Let each other know what steps you're taking, and then commit to praying for one another. (Ideally, you'll want to pray for each other while you're together, allowing your conversation to shape and inform your prayers for each other.)



## Rhythm & Purpose

READY to LEAD is designed to help a rhythm of life in purposeful connection with others. It is one part of a larger strategy to help strengthen a disciple-making culture in our corps across the territory. Other versions of the Personal Grid are available, beyond a youth ministry context, for new and maturing believers, local leaders, as well as those considering God's call on their lives, and officers. For more information on READY to LEAD or the overall Discipleship Roadmaps strategy using the Personal Grid in your setting, contact [Kevin Slous at kevin.slous@salvationarmy.ca](mailto:kevin.slous@salvationarmy.ca).

