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## Focus Groups: A New Opportunity: Youth and Young Adult Ministry Through COVID and Beyond

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# FOCUS GROUPS: A NEW OPPORTUNITY

## Youth and Young Adult Ministry Through COVID and Beyond

WHILE THE first day of the 180° Symposium focused on prepared papers on the topic, the second day became a brainstorming session that drew on the papers presented as well as the education, experience, and expertise of the participants who were in person as well as online for this hybrid event.

Participants joined one of the three Focus Groups on a self-selected basis. The three perspectives to choose from included:

1. Academics—Those involved in teaching and researching, with a bent toward educational pursuits, attitudes, and actions.
2. Administrators—Those involved in roles that oversee planning, budgeting, collaborating, evaluating, visioning, and initiating through structures.
3. Practitioners—Those involved in doing ministry most directly, whether that be in a local church setting or a school setting as it relates to young people—youth, young adults, and children.

Each Focus Group had a facilitator that guided those who chose that group to brainstorm and then synthesize and prioritize the key points of their time together. This led to recommendations from the group.

On the third morning of the symposium, all three focus groups came together to share their key points and recommendations. These were subjected to input from the others present and then refined and submitted for inclusion here.