

# Third Thursday Notes

March 20, 2025 - Ministry Beyond The Church Walls

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Youth group night is awesome, but is that the only way to connect with students?

## Why do we work with students outside the walls of the church?

- **The Theological Reason.** Jesus left His space and came to ours, and sent us to do the same.
- **The Practical Reason.** They aren't coming on their own; there no longer exists any social incentive to attending church.

## How do we start to engage in this?

- **Parachurch.** Parachurch ministries can help break down barriers and bring unity by being a vehicle for local churches to work together. For example:
  - on campus programming
  - city-wide youth events (worship, outreach, service, spring break)
- **Meet Three Kids.** Nothing happens overnight or all at once. So, take it slow and just have a goal to meet three kids. Know their names leads to knowing their stories; and knowing their stories leads to spiritual engagement. So... meet three kids, stay engaged, and keep moving along with them.

## What are some challenges we face?

- What do you do if you don't have a parachurch partner? How do I start something in a school?
  - Three Ingredients: School administration, Student led, Support team and resources
- Fear of being weird.
  - This is all in your head – spiritual warfare from the enemy.

## Examples of Parachurch Ministries You May Be Able To Partner With

- Youth For Christ ([yfc.net/](http://yfc.net/))
- Young Life ([younglife.org/](http://younglife.org/))
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes ([fca.org/](http://fca.org/))
- National Youth Ministry Network ([youthworkers.net/](http://youthworkers.net/))