

I Don't Want to Grow Up...

Helping our friends with disabilities grow in their faith means preparing them for transition with new places of belonging & spiritual community.



Social Structure Transition for Young Adults with Disabilities

Transition happens in all areas for our friends:

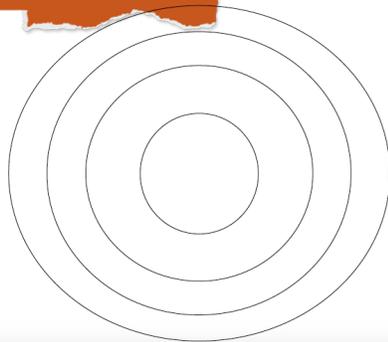
- Aging out of health care/Children's Hospital Clinics for specialized medical care to new systems
- High School Graduation to Adult transition programs or colleges
- New social workers from Regional Center for services
- New funding available to parents after age 18, different/less services
- Aging out of city recreation programs, Kiwana's clubs, etc

The impact can be overwhelming and at times isolating...

Circles of Support

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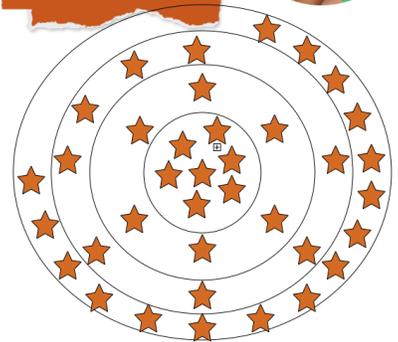
- Center Circle is circle of intimacy
- Second Circle is circle of friendship
- Third Circle is circle of participation
- Fourth Circle is circle of exchange



A Well Connected Teen Pre-Transition

Circles of Support

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Young Life Capernaum's Mission

YOUNG LIFE CAPERNAUM exists to introduce adolescents to Jesus Christ and help them grow in their faith.

YOUNG LIFE CAPERNAUM is focused on relational ministry with 14-22 year olds with a possible addition of Beyond Capernaum for 23-26 year olds.

YOUNG LIFE CAPERNAUM is an evangelical branch of the Church with a clear mission, a place where friends belong for a season.

Completing the 2nd Half of Our Mission Statement

‘...helping them grow in their faith’

The best news we can share with our friends is that they belong FOREVER to Jesus & in the body, but these are only words unless we help them grow in their faith and faith community. If they have something to grow into, they will want to grow up.

‘discipleship as transition’

The Need: BELONGING

THE CHURCH is intended by design to be a place for belonging of *diverse* parts. The BODY of Christ. (1 Cor 12:12-24)

THE CHURCH is *not limited by age* or to a *certain group* of people.

THE CHURCH is *our forever family* and home... its our earthly expression of eternal community.

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Discipleship as Transition Should Consider helping our friends:

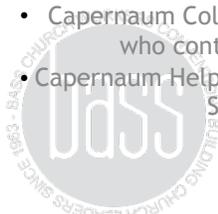
- Navigate & access the Bible
- Identify their gifts & understand what they offer the body/ Church & world (spiritual resumes)
- Serve where their gifts lie
- Prepare for a church experience, identify 'accessible' churches
- Build & move into relationships in the Church
- Celebrate transition as a maturing in Christ (graduation or transition)
- Continue friendships while encouraging transition



What Could Belonging Beyond the Young Life Capernaum Years Look Like...

A Few Models:

- Capernaum & the Church Outreach to Teens with a "Friends for Life" vision
- Capernaum Collaborates with a Church who continues Adult Ministry
- Capernaum Helps Friends Become Part of Small Groups



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How Can We Begin to Work Together as Young Life Capernaum & the Church

- Connect... Where are Capernaum & the Church close enough in proximity to minister to the same families?
- Pray *together* for Capernaum friends and their families. Pray for a way to reach the *whole* family.
- Recognize our need for one another...
- Dream, Pray, Go!!

Please feel free to contact me with questions or for resources such as "Resources for Transition" pdf with links to several ministries for training and preparation:

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