



The for **First Year Coordinators of Youth Ministry**
(from our friends in the Baltimore Archdiocese)

- Admit your mistakes—and learn from them.
- Be firm but flexible.
- Communicate with parents.
- Develop a discipline policy and stick to it!!
- Empower your young people and volunteers; don't just give them directives.
- Find time to attend school events.
- Get to know all the people in your parish—become friends with the cooks, custodians, and administrative assistants.
- Have the courage to try something else if what you're doing isn't working.
- Institute a clear discipline policy and enforce it consistently.
- Just listen to what the young people are saying and to what they are not saying.
- Keep a journal.
- Learn the procedures and the norms of your parish.
- Model desired attitudes and behaviors.
- Non carborundum ignorami. (Don't let imbeciles wear you down.)
- Over plan.
- Pray. Pray. Pray.
- Quit worrying and just do your best.
- Remember that *you* teach students first, *then* you teach whatever academic discipline you learned.
- Stay alert.
- Take pictures.
- Understand that the learning process involves everyone—parents, pastors, staff members, parishioners, and young people—and get everyone involved.
- Volunteer to share projects and ideas, and don't be afraid to ask others to share their ideas with you.
- Xpect the unexpected—and plan it!
- Yell if you need support.
- Zero in on your strengths, not your weaknesses. (Remember—nobody's perfect.)

<p><u>Five Unrecoverable Mistakes</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Become a lone ranger 2. Shooting the Shepherd 3. Ignoring the parish process 4. Ignoring appropriate boundaries 5. Failing to collaborate with parents 	<p><u>Five Attitudes to Imitate</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Act like a Disciple 2. Work with the whole church 3. Love the Church 4. Speak about the positive 5. Learn from failures
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