



Adventist Youth Ministries

AS THE FATHER HAS SENT ME, SO I AM SENDING YOU
AMBASSADORS
fostering a new generation of spiritual leaders





Adventist Youth Ministries

Module 7 –
Community Outreach Development

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Ten Objectives

Ambassadors Ministry

- 1 Make the **number-one** priority of your Ambassador programming to be the personal salvation of each and every teen who is a member.
- 2 Encourage teens to discover their God-given talents and to **use their gifts and abilities** to fulfil God's expectations of them.
- 3 Teach the teens to internalize God's love and His principles so that they will take responsibility for their walk with God and use His principles and the guidance of the Holy Spirit to make wise decisions in their lives.
- 4 Help teens to realize that God and His church love them and appreciate the implementation of their talents for the fulfilling of the gospel commission as established in Matt. 28:18–20 and Acts 1:8. Help them find fulfillment in their life with God as they share their beliefs with those who God brings to them.
- 5 Teach an understanding and love for God's creation through programs of adventure and discovery. The young people will find their fellowship with God to be more meaningful as they are given the opportunity to experience that sense of wonder and worship as nature unfolds its deepest spiritual secrets, as described in Romans 1:19, 20.
- 6 Inspire the teens to give personal expression of their love for God by teaching them how to be **involved in various outreach activities**.
- 7 Teach the teens specific **vocational skills** and hobbies that will provide them with purpose and employment opportunities.
- 8 Encourage the young people to develop and maintain physical fitness through an active, energetic, drug-free lifestyle.
- 9 Provide them with opportunities to develop and demonstrate their **leadership abilities**. They will strengthen their resolve to learn and maintain appropriate internal discipline and apply their skills of resourcefulness and understanding of the processes of group dynamics.
- 10 Provide ample opportunities for teens to interact in carefully supervised activities that will lead to and strengthen life-long committed relationships.





Seven Foundations/ Modules

Ambassadors Ministry



A Christ-centered
Discipleship



Leadership
Development



Mission Lifestyle



Character &
Personality
Outdoor Adventure



Lifestyle &
Vocational Training



Nurturing
Godly Relationships



Community outreach
development





Four Essential Elements

Ambassadors Ministry



Spiritual
Companion

01



Individual
Discipleship
Plan (IDP)

02



Projects

03



Social
Activities

04





Outcome and Evidence of Learning

Ambassadors Ministry

	Outcomes	
Head Participants will...		
Hands Participants will be able to...		
Heart Participants will be able to...		





The Importance of Module 7

Ambassadors Ministry

- The best way to represent Jesus is by living/ loving like Him — serving people in need.
- Young people often leave the Church disappointed because it is not serving the community.
- Young people want to see the church take a stand against injustice.
- Involvement in community project can help youth find their vocation/ spiritual gifts/ leadership skills.
- Resilience — active involvement in service develops their own resilience against at-risk behaviours.





SESSION 1: OVERVIEW

Ambassadors Ministry

1. This lesson provides an overview for the first 7 lessons in Module #7 on community development outreach using strategies for reaching out to our neighbors and communities from a ministry philosophy known as Christian Community Development (CCD).
2. This lesson will provide a quick introduction to the key components of this philosophy and encourage participants to consider how these principles can be applied in their communities through their own churches.
3. This lesson uses an example from the lives of John and Vera Mae Perkins, who were very active in the civil rights struggle in America. Their story can be used to draw parallels to the current situations and realities of the Ambassadors in your group in any country or setting.





SESSION 1: OVERVIEW

Ambassadors Ministry

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

- Luke 4:18–19 (Jesus ministry to eradicate all evil and injustice)
- Jeremiah 29:4–7 (seeking the „peace and prosperity” of the place where you live)
- Matthew 22:36–40 (loving God and people as the greatest way to live as a Christian)
- John 10:10 (Jesus ministry — to bring an abundant life)
- Isaiah 65:17–24 (the vision of the new heaven and earth is prosperity, justice and joy)
- **How can we be a part of helping our communities experience this heavenly experience on earth?**





SESSION 1: OVERVIEW

Ambassadors Ministry

SHARE THE STORY

- Share that the Christian Community Development movement in America began with a demand for justice by John M. Perkins and his wife, Vera Mae Perkins (also known as "Grandma Perkins"). Despite being a third-grade dropout, Perkins has been recognized for his work with 16 honorary doctorate. He has served on the Boards of Directors of World Vision and Prison Fellowship. Perkins has advised and/or served on the Presidential Task Forces of five U.S. Presidents and is the author of 17 books, including the best-selling One Blood: Parting Words to the Church on Race.
- Share some other good stories (e.g. „Mama Maggie” Gobran in Egypt etc.)





SESSION 1: OVERVIEW

Ambassadors Ministry

The key components of the ministry philosophy are:

- **Relocation:** living in the community in which one is ministering
- **Reconciliation:** having been reconciled with God, we now work on reconciliation with one another
- **Redistribution:** creating equal access and opportunity for all humanity to the needed resources (economic, social, educational and relational)
- **Church-Based:** the Church is the foundation from which other programmes emanate
- **Listening to the Community:** the needs of the community are to be identified and addressed
- **Wholistic:** community development is to be comprehensive
- **Leadership Development:** developing the future leadership from among those indigenous to the community
- **Empowerment:** developing and strengthening capacity enabling others to do for themselves and use their gifts to serve others.





SESSION 2: CHURCH-BASED

Ambassadors Ministry

1. This lesson helps the participants understand the central role of the church in any community development outreach effort and to see the value of church in community.
2. As participants understand the biblical understanding of church, they will also see applications of how the church can help every community to look more like the kingdom of God.
3. This lesson will pick up where the previous lesson ended in talking about God's kingdom being on earth as it is in heaven.





SESSION 2: CHURCH-BASED

Ambassadors Ministry

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

- Mat 5:13–15 (church as salt and light)
- God's relationships to those in need (Deut 10:17–18; Ps 35:10; Proverbs 29:7; Pro 31:8–9; Jer 22:3; James 1:17 etc.)
- Isaiah 58 — Sabbath and social justice





SESSION 2: CHURCH-BASED

Ambassadors Ministry

PROBLEM:

- The problem with the Church is that it is often self-focused and self-serving; not involved in developing its communities.
- Churches are guilty of being open only once or twice a week and being almost irrelevant to the needs of the people in the communities they serve.
- Many para-church or secular organizations have started to do the work of loving their neighbor that the Church has neglected.
- It is practically impossible to do effective wholistic ministry apart from the local church. The goal of this lesson is to encourage youth to do their community involvement through the Church.





SESSION 2: CHURCH-BASED

Ambassadors Ministry

The church in relationship with the community:

- ✓ Doing ministry **IN** a community,
- ✓ Doing ministry **TO/FOR** a community,
- ✓ Doing ministry **WITH** a community.

Look at your church/organization and relationship to the community.

Which of these descriptions fits your situation?

Why?





SESSION 2: CHURCH-BASED

Ambassadors Ministry

Examples of church-based ministry to the needy:

- PRIA ministries (India)
- Example from history (Fernando Stahl in Peru)
- Find some local examples





SESSION 3: RELOCATION

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1. This lesson will explain the principle of Relocation, first looking at the example of Jesus and other examples (like Moses).
2. To understand that there are different types of “relocators”.
3. It is also important to note that relocators do not “bring God” to the community. God is already there! They come to participate in God’s work.





SESSION 3: RELOCATION

Ambassadors Ministry

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

- **Jesus incarnation** – He became one of us. He didn't commute back and forth to heaven.
- **Moses "relocation"**— what did he learn by leaving the Pharaoh's house?
- Relocation is physically living amongst those in need in under-resourced communities.
- **"With-ness"** — the gift of presence, being there to walk through life together, sharing the suffering and pain of others.





SESSION 3: RELOCATION

Ambassadors Ministry

Relocation can happen in any of three ways.

- ✓ As a **relocator**, a person who moves into a community from the outside who has never lived in the community before.
- ✓ As a “**returner**,” someone born and raised in the community but left for a time, and chose to return.
- ✓ As a “**remainer**,” someone born and raised in the community and intentionally stayed to be a part of the solution to the problems surrounding them.





SESSION 3: RELOCATION

Ambassadors Ministry

Relocation is hard — whatever is your type of relocation, the essence is to sacrifice your commodity in order to be close to the people.

Relocation is the best way to serve:

- You will understand most clearly the real problems facing the poor
- You will develop relationships with people you are serving
- They will perceive you as „one of them”, not somebody „above them”
- By getting to know them, you will respect and involve the people from community





SESSION 4: LISTENING TO THE COMMUNITY

Ambassadors Ministry

1. This lesson will explain the principle of *Listening to the Community* which is key to the ministry philosophy.
2. In this lesson the participants will have a chance to participate in a number of *exercises* to help them understand the value of taking the time to listen to the community as well as practice some of the skills/ techniques that help one listen well.
3. This lesson includes a “homework” assignment that will provide practice in discovering the assets within their own community





SESSION 4: LISTENING TO THE COMMUNITY

Ambassadors Ministry

PROBLEM:

- Too often communities are developed by outsiders that bring in resources without taking into account the community itself.
- Often we work on what we think they need.
- Also, we focus on the weaknesses and needs of a community.





SESSION 4: LISTENING TO THE COMMUNITY

Ambassadors Ministry

- *Felt needs* (you listen in order to find out what they really need). The community „decides” what needs to be changed.
- Focus on *their assets* not on their weaknesses. Their strengths are used to bring change.
- This approach affirms the *dignity* of individuals and encourages the engagement of the community to use their own resources and assets to bring about sustainable change.
- If we listen and focus on their assets, that will give them a sense of *ownership*. It is important to recognize everyone has something to say and everyone has something to contribute





SESSION 4: LISTENING TO THE COMMUNITY

Ambassadors Ministry

EXERCISES/ ACTIVITIES:

- **Head, Hands, Heart Treasure Hunt** (bring your gifts, not your weaknesses)
- **Label exercise** (everyone has been labeled at some point)
- **Listening/ Learning conversation** exercise (questions, in groups...)
- **Homework — prayer walk** (walk around your community in places you usually go during a typical week and pray while you are walking. Pray with your eyes and heart open. As you walk and pray, pay attention to what you are seeing. See your community through God's eyes)





SESSION 5: REDISTRIBUTION

Ambassadors Ministry

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

- *Redistribution* is the redistributing of economic, social, educational, and relational resources in order to create equal access and opportunity for all humanity
- *OT economic system* was created to keep gap between rich and poor as small as possible (e.g. Lev 19:5–15)
- *Caring* for people in need (Deut 15; Deut 22; Prov 14:31; 2 Cor 8:13–15; Luke 3:10–11; Acts 2:42–47; 1 Tim 6:17–19; James 5:1–6)
- *Two different worldviews*. Viewing yourself as an owner with rights vs. Viewing yourself as a steward with responsibility





SESSION 5: REDISTRIBUTION

Ambassadors Ministry

did you know...

Does our planet have a RESOURCE problem or a DISTRIBUTION problem?





SESSION 5: REDISTRIBUTION

Ambassadors Ministry

1. Bean Game

Basic instructions:

- Each person gets a cup with a certain number of beans in the cup
- Go to another person and play “rock, paper, scissors”
- Whoever wins gets a bean from the loser
- If the winner has less beans than the loser, he/she has to win 2 times before getting a bean from the loser (who has more beans).
- If the loser has no more beans, he/she becomes a servant of the winner and puts his/her hand on the winner’s shoulder and follows them around.
- If the loser has servants, he/she first gives up a servant to the winner (in place of a bean), until all servants are gone, then continue to give up beans.

Rock, Paper, Scissors instructions:

- There are hand gestures to represent each of these 3 items. Rock is a closed fist. Paper is an open hand palm down. Scissors is taking pointer & middle finger and moving them like scissors.
- The two people playing against each other, stand facing each other. They take their right hand as a fist and beat it against their left open palm (facing up) 3 times, saying, “one, two, three.” Then on the fourth time, they display the symbol of the item they want to play (rock, paper or scissors), so that both game players show their symbol at the same time.
- Winners are determined as follows: Rock wins over scissors, scissors wins over paper, paper wins over rock.





SESSION 6: EMPOWERMENT

Ambassadors Ministry

BIBLICAL FOUNDATION

- The Bible teaches *empowerment*, not *dependency*.
- In Deuteronomy 24 and Leviticus 19, God instituted the gleaning system:
 1. As an opportunity for people to get their needs met.
 2. The person who had a need must be willing to work for it. When these principles are working, a person's dignity is affirmed.





SESSION 6: EMPOWERMENT

Ambassadors Ministry



did you know...



Empowerment is a popular word these days. It may be a misnomer. People, like butterflies, have an inbred capacity to emerge into creatures of unique beauty. But intervene in the chrysalis process when the caterpillar is undergoing its transformation and the process may be aborted. Assist the emerging butterfly as it struggles to break out of its cocoon and it may never develop the strength to fly. We may protect the cocoon from predators, even shield it from winter's hostile blast, but do more than create the conditions for timely emergence and we will cause damage. Butterflies, like people, cannot be empowered. They will emerge toward their uniquely created potential, given a conducive environment.

Bob Lupton





SESSION 6: EMPOWERMENT

Ambassadors Ministry

- RELIEF
- BETTERMENT
- EMPOWERMENT
- SYSTEM CHANGE

Relief	Empowerment
Addresses crisis situation	Addresses chronic situation
Focus on needs	Focus on opportunities
Short term intervention	Long term intervention
Need quickly identified	Need unearthed over time
Event oriented	Relationship oriented
Give something to address need	Need addressed with person gains knowledge, skills, etc.
Focuses more on “we do”	Focuses on what person can do
Focus on individuals	Focus on community
Goal is service	Goal is empowerment
Programs are the answer	People are the answer

2. Break up into 3 groups and review the following passages:

Nehemiah 5:1–13, Exodus 1:8–20 and Acts 15:1–29

Discuss what strategies for organizing and empowerment you see in these stories.





SESSION 7: WHOLISTIC

Ambassadors Ministry

1. This lesson provides an overview of the component of 'Wholistic' from the Christian Community Development philosophy of ministry. It will help tie all the previous lessons in this module together.
2. Feel free to bring back in anything from the previous lessons that you find helpful.
3. Leave time to answer questions here that may have come up before, or those you may not have had time for in previous lessons.





SESSION 7: WHOLISTIC

Ambassadors Ministry

- There is *never a simplistic answer* to the problems in poor communities (spiritual, social, economic, political, cultural, emotional, physical, moral, judicial, educational and familial issues of each person).
- The wholistic approach is *difficult* because there are so many aspects to a person's life. That is why there is no better way of helping a person than having him or her committed to a local church.
- The church must be involved in *every aspect* of a person's life. It is also important to *network* with other organizations in the community.





SESSION 7: WHOLISTIC

Ambassadors Ministry

Share with the whole group about the work of ADRA, which includes disaster/relief work, but also wholistic community development. For example, ADRA Australia has projects that include the efforts in the following areas where shalom/wholeness is needed:

- youth development
- clean water
- remote medical services
- HIV/AIDS prevention and services
- small enterprise development
- employment services and education



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ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT
AND RELIEF AGENCY
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Emergency Preparedness

Ambassadors Ministry

What to do before, during, and after an emergency while fostering critical 21st-century skills such as problem solving, teamwork, creativity, leadership, and communication.

- ✓ We do not have a standardized *Emergency Preparation Training* because each country operates differently.
- ✓ The leader should contact their Conference/Union/ADRA office to see if there are any organized training, if not, then they can contact their local Red Cross/Civil Defense and arrange for them to give the seminar (Do this a few months ahead of time).
- ✓ To help defray any cost involved in running the seminar/training and to maximize the seminar benefit/effectiveness, it might be best organized through the local conference to involve multiple churches/groups.





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