

T510.01 Basic Introduction to Teen Challenge Ministry Teacher Notes

By Dave Batty

This course is designed to be one of the first courses taught to new staff and volunteers or those interested in helping to start a Teen Challenge.

It is designed to be taught in 45 minutes, with translation. If this is being taught with side-by-side translation, the presenter will have between 20-25 minutes to teach it. Consequently you cannot spend a lot of time on any one point. The purpose of this course is to give a broad introduction to Teen Challenge and let them know that all of these issues can be covered in greater detail in future training sessions.

Check the website www.iTeenChallenge.org for a current list of the additional materials which go along with this course.

Dave Batty taught this course in China in July 2009. The bi-lingual video is available from the Global Teen Challenge office. It will be available also at the www.iTeenChallenge.org website in the Staff Training section. A transcript of this course will also be available in English on the website in the near future.

The main points of the outline below are identical to the **Participant notesheet**. These teacher notes give additional points to be discussed under each part of the outline.

1. A quick look at the history of Teen Challenge

- a. How TC first started in New York City in 1958
 - Feb 28 Dave Wilkerson trial of 7 teens for murder of Michael Farmer
 - early gang ministry—Nicky Cruz
 - 1962 started TCTC in PA which became the model for TC residential programs -- other cities across USA, then Canada and beyond
- b. Began in Europe in 1969
 - rapid spread across Europe, starting with coffee houses for evangelism
 - next year started a residential recovery program for men on a farm in Germany
 - spread around world
 - today over 1,200 TC ministries in over 140 countries on 6 continents
- c. What is God's desire for your nation, state, city, region?
 - God raised up TC over 60 years ago
 - What is God wanting to do today?
 - God loves people who are broken, hurting and in bondage.

2. Importance of the **Holy Spirit** to help us in this work

Psalm 127:1 NIV

Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain.

Unless the LORD watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain.

--We can't do this ministry in our own strength

--Don Argue quote from 1962 We prayed a lot in those early days, not because we were so spiritual, but because we were desperate—we didn't know what to do, and we needed God's help.

--Frank Reynolds at TC 50th, NYC, My greatest fear is that we will come to believe that we know how to do it.

--no longer rely on God's help

3. The heart of Teen Challenge: **Evangelism** and **discipleship**

TC started primarily as an evangelism ministry, but soon expanded to include discipleship

They were relapsing after 2-3 weeks—we don't know how to live for Jesus

Gave rise to the residential program

- a. Like 2 wings of an airplane—which wing is more **important**?

Problem in some centers today is that they have little or no evangelism

- b. Teen Challenge is more than drug **recovery**

--getting someone off drugs is too small a goal

--Jesus wants to do more—he wants to transform their whole life

- c. What is life transformation?

--becoming a radical follower of Jesus, where his teachings influence every area of our life

4. Non-residential Teen Challenge ministry

- a. Street contact with drug addicts, including coffeehouse ministry

--go where the drug addicts are in your area

--coffee house ministry is successfully being used in some countries today

--find creative ways to connect with the drug addicts—go to detox centers

b. Living Free Support Groups

--very flexible

--can be used to minister to family while their loved one is in TC program

--some may never need a residential program

c. Day program for drug addicts

--for those who are unable to afford a building at this point, this is an option rather than waiting for the perfect situation.

--daily schedule very similar to a residential program

5. Residential Teen Challenge ministry

There is more than one way to set up and run a TC residential program

a. Traditional Teen Challenge approach for men's programs

> Induction—Months 1-4

> Training—Months 5-12

> Re-entry into society

These 3 areas will be covered in more detail in other workshops. See the list of recommended next courses at the end of this session.

These programs are typically for those 18 and old with no upper age limit.

b. Traditional Teen Challenge approach for women's programs

> Full term residential program—Months 1-12

> Re-entry into society

These programs are typically for those 18 and old with no upper age limit.

c. Adolescent ministries for those 12-17 years old

--government regulations often dictate some policies regarding working young teens

d. Children's ministries—HIV/AIDS orphans Swaziland, Africa and Mumbai, India

6. Mission statement of Teen Challenge

The mission of Teen Challenge is to **evangelize** and **disciple** persons with life-controlling problems and **initiate** the discipleship process to the point where the student can function as a Christian **in society**, applying spiritually motivated biblical principles in relationships in the family, church, chosen vocation, and community.

7. Key issues for staff

The main point we want to cover here is to give a quick overview of some of the key traits we are looking for in Teen Challenge staff and volunteers. This ministry is not for everyone. Those who do work at Teen Challenge have a tremendous impact in the lives of these hurting people. We need to use care in who we place in leadership positions to minister to these students.

- a. **Relationship** with Jesus
- b. **Love** for hurting people
- c. Have a **teachable** spirit
--we all need training to be more effective
- d. Understand **healthy** living
- e. Dysfunctional staff create **dysfunctional** disciples
- f. TC ministry is **hard** work

8. Questions for discussion

Contact Information: www.Globaltc.org www.iTeenChallenge.org

Next courses recommended to teach:

1. Keys to the Success of Teen Challenge
2. Introduction to the Teen Challenge Residential Recovery Program: Part 1: Induction
3. Introduction to the Teen Challenge Residential Recovery Program: Part 2: Training Center
4. Introduction to the Teen Challenge Residential Recovery Program: Part 3: Re-entry