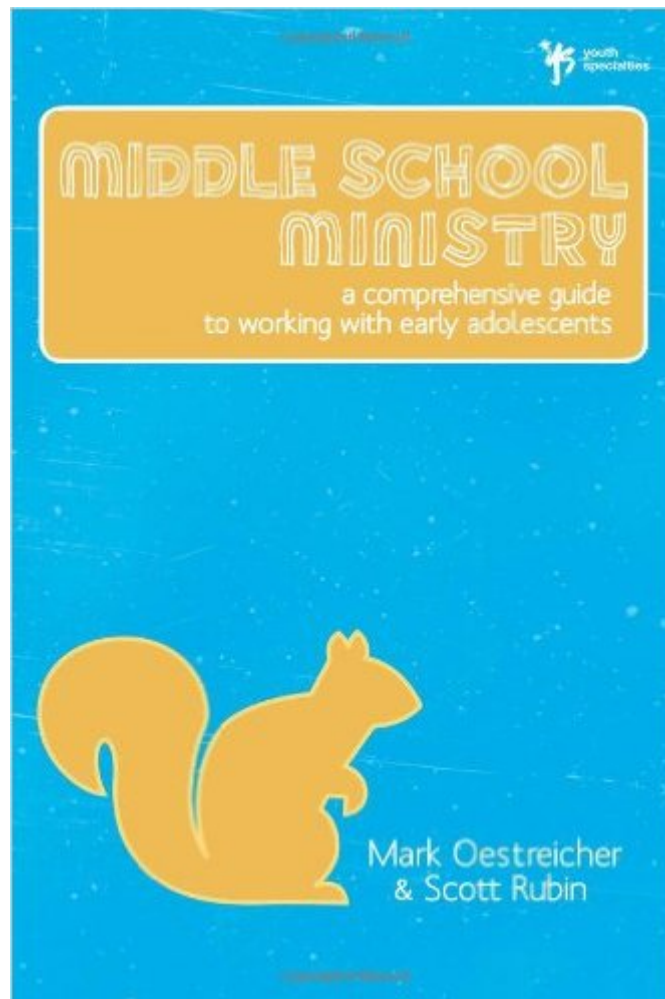


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# Middle School Ministry: A Comprehensive Guide To Working With Early Adolescents



## Synopsis

Many people run scared from the middle school youth room. But (thankfully!) there are people out there who are actually drawn to those young teens. Although often times theyâ™re not equipped to deal with the unique challenges that middle school ministry presents, or theyâ™re just not sure what to do when a room full of young teens (who are âœpart child, but not quite adultâ•) are running around the youth room. Finally, thereâ™s a comprehensive guide to middle school ministry, from two veterans of this uncharted territory. Mark Oestreicher and Scott Rubin help youth workers understand the importance of middle school ministry, the development process for young teens and their implications for ministry, and how to best minister to these sometimes misunderstood students. They share their experiences (as middle school pastors and parents of middle schoolers), giving youth workers the encouragement, hope, and training they need to succeed in middle school ministry.

## Book Information

Paperback: 384 pages

Publisher: Zondervan/Youth Specialties (August 16, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0310284945

ISBN-13: 978-0310284949

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #673,698 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #468 inÂ Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Youth Ministry #35119 inÂ Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living #140609 inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality

## Customer Reviews

I've worked with middle school students on and off since 2002, and I really enjoy kids during this stage of life. But, if you've ever worked with junior high students before, you know they're a strange breed. It took me a while to figure out how to relate to the guys in my small group. Once I did, though, I really loved getting to know them and teach them about Christ. I also didn't realize how some seemingly insignificant things I did at the time would make a lasting impact on these students' lives. In fact, I think it'd be honest to say that just about everything I learned about kids this age came from observation and interaction, but it took a long time. The authors of Middle School Ministry

are veteran youth pastors and they describe the book as really being two books in one. The first part is all about the psychological, physical, and developmental changes taking place during early adolescence. The second part contains practical strategy for doing youth ministry with this age group. As I read, I found myself agreeing with most of the conclusions that the authors made and wishing that someone had given me a similar book (this one was first published last year) when I had started working with middle school students years ago; it would have saved me from a lot of wondering, some annoyances, and many the struggles of figuring out how to react to certain weird things that students tend to do as they navigate this important stage of life. What I really appreciated about this book is that it went beyond the typical rhetoric that can go like this: Junior high students have B.O., so it takes a special person to work with them. Also, we need to make sure they're kept safe from worldly temptation as they begin to navigate their teen years, so youth group needs to be a safe place.

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