

# Quotes from Leaders & Transition Success Stories

## Summer Opportunity and Challenge!

70-80% of Christian students walk away from their faith in college. A Navigators study showed that most of this was tied to new friends they meet during the first 72 hours on campus. Every church or Christian school who has motivated students and their parents with the videos on this [LiveAbove Flyer](#), then connected to students to campus ministries in advance, have seen this loss statistic nearly eliminated. What will it look like in August this year if every Christian student in this area is connected in advance, and impacts their dorm in this opportunity [Sweet Spot?](#) If 10% of the 7000 annual CNY high school graduates are believers, and we eliminate the 70% loss, that is 490 more students each year who will retain all their parents and churches have invested in them as well as helping to impact colleges and society for life. Together we can get the word out and all achieve [this goal](#). Please share this page with pastors and friends you know. This 4-minute [National Leaders Video](#) tells it well.

## Remarks from Pastors and Leaders

### National

*"Youth face a minefield of temptations when leaving home. The Youth Transition Network enables students to connect with ministries, friends, and roommates that will help solidify their faith" - **Josh McDowell**.*

*"There is no one doing what YTN does, and it is desperately needed". – **Frank Pastore Show- Los Angeles***

### Syracuse

*"When you look into the eyes of Christian young people today, you are looking into the eyes of the next generation of Christian leaders. Christian leaders today are responsible for the leaders of tomorrow. YTN helps assure first, that they will be there, and second that they will be effective." **Jeff Shaver, Executive Director - Faith Heritage School, Syracuse, NY***

*No one would argue that college has a major impact on a student's life. As a past college president and now a senior pastor I understand the importance of helping connect college students with individuals, churches and organizations that will help them succeed not only academically but spiritually. It is so very important to have positive Christian influencers come along side of our students to challenge and encourage them in their faith journey. That is what YTN is all about – helping students, parents and churches connect to a network that will help assure success that leads to students living meaningful and significant lives for God. I strongly support the ministry of YTN because it helps meet a vital need that we all have. **Dr. George Miller, Senior Pastor, North Syracuse Baptist Church.***

*As a Youth Pastor, for years I've been trying to help my students graduating from high school prepare to go away to college and to connect with churches and campus ministries all across the country. Youth Transition Network has become a tremendous resource for me, my students and their parents as we work together to navigate this critical time in life. **Pastor Jake Sorber, North Syracuse Baptist Church***

*"Parents have forgotten or lost touch with what awaits their children on the college campus, YTN reminds us; and equips us to help not only keep their faith, but in fact grow. For years the church has tried to stem the tide of losing our teens to the lure of secular culture, Youth Transition Network is the best answer yet!" - **Lou Giordano, Senior Pastor Church of the Resurrection Assembly of God, East Syracuse, NY***

*"The Youth Transition Network is no longer a casual option, but a necessity for every student heading into a secular and very often spiritually hostile environment. I highly recommend their ministry!" As a father who has experienced great concern about the "new world" that my children will face transitioning into college life, I am at greater ease knowing that when that day comes my children may be embraced by a known believing community connected through YTN. - **Wayne Taylor, General Manager, Mars Hill Network.***

### Rochester

*"It is becoming common knowledge that there is a large dropout rate among our Christian high school students after graduation. As many as 80% of our young people are not connecting with a good evangelical church when*

*they enter the school of their choice. YTN is coming along side students, parents, and churches to help make this important transition into higher education and adult life, a huge success.” - Rev George Grace – Senior Pastor, First Bible Baptist Church, Rochester*

*“Today’s Youth are not the generation of the future, but the generation of the present. Value them and build into them TODAY what is essential for their development as committed followers of Jesus Christ. YTN is an effective ministry in empowering this younger “GENERATION OF THE PRESENT.” - Vince DiPaola, Senior Pastor, Lakeshore Community Church, Rochester*

*“As a parent, pastor, and educator, I’m deeply concerned about the spiritual trajectory of today’s youth – and deeply grateful for YTN’s efforts to reverse the trend.” – Rev. Dr Jack Connell, Vice President at Northeastern Seminary, Rochester NY*

*“YTN’s ministry concept in working with parents and new college students to connect these students to resources that will help them to continue with their faith in Christ on the college campus is an idea we can totally support and encourage others to do the same!” – Rick Snavely, CEO -Family Life Network Radio*

## Binghamton

*“My greatest disappointment as a lay leader, youth pastor and now college educator has been to see many young people allow secular culture slowly lure them away from fellowship with God and His church. YTN is on the front line in the battle to save this generation. I can think of no greater cause and I wholeheartedly support their mission and efforts!” -- Rick Cramer, COO and VP for Student Development at Davis College, Johnson City, NY*

## Transition Success Stories

### Church youth succeeding in college

Black Rock Congregational Church in Fairfield CT used to experience the typical 70% loss upon graduation. “Last year I had all of my high school students participated in SUCCEED one afternoon . All were greatly challenged to be spiritually ready for college. Most were blown away by the idea that their first 72 hours at college were the most important in staying strong in their faith. As they have started college, they say that much of what they learned from SUCCEED was true about their first days at college. Many of them were able to find Christian roommates and are already plugged into campus ministries because of [www.LiveAbove.com](http://www.LiveAbove.com) . The result? All of our graduates continued in their faith and connected to ministries! “ - *Jeremy Taylor, HS Director*

### Christian High School Grad success rate more than doubles

Scottsdale Christian Academy had been tracking the number of graduates who remained in regular church or Christian group attendance one year after the graduation. This number was around 30%. After bringing in a YTN speaker in 2008 who challenged the students to use YTN videos and tools to connect them ahead of time to campus ministries, the following year over 70% of the students remained in Christian fellowship.

### Youth groups growing and cultures changing

For years, Bacon Heights Baptist in Lubbock TX experienced a problem common to many churches. The youth meetings would normally engage about 30 freshmen, 30 sophomores, 10 juniors, and often just 3 seniors. Two years ago, a husband and wife used the YTN Be Prepared material and videos to engage the juniors and seniors about real issues the teens wrestled with, as well as practical preparation for the future. Youth Pastor Don Bishop credits YTN resources for the fact that the group now has over 30 seniors and they are inviting their friends and changing their work schedules to attend. A number of them have been successful in sharing Christ in their high school, and look forward to doing the same in college. Don is now telling pastors throughout west Texas about YTN.

### Natural and Relational Evangelism increasing

YTN videos were shown at Redwood Chapel near San Francisco, where Chelsea’s parents had been concerned about their daughter going to the secular campus of University of Nebraska. Through YTN she connected with the Navigators and found a Christian roommate. Both parents came to campus two days early and really hit it off. The first night on their own, Chelsea and her roommate invited 4 girls on the floor who were headed to a party to instead

join them at a Navigators fellowship. All six are with the Navigators and walking with Christ today. See First Weeks on College.

## Parent –Teen Relationships Growing

“The YTN Secrets of Influential Parenting seminar brought me to a new place in parenting. It’s hard to put into words all that spoke to my heart. I have three teens—all “good” kids, and doing well in school. The seminar helped me to understand their strong need for community as they head off to college. It also helped me realize that as a parent, I have a pivotal role to play—that of loving support for their times of triumph as well as their times of failure. Jeff Schadt has done extensive research into their world. So many feel the pressure to be perfect, which can lead to a “double-life” syndrome. Jeff gives practical suggestions about how to prevent this, and how to prepare teens now for what they will face tomorrow.” - *Patty Camloh, Teacher at Faith Heritage School, Mom of Pre-teens and Teens, Church of the Resurrection, East Syracuse NY.*

“From a father’s point of view, Secrets of Influential Parenting is life changing! I don’t know how else to describe it. My wife and I have read many parenting books but none of them impacted us like this.. I am constantly looking for shepherding moments instead of getting on my kids for something! It has made a difference in how they respond. From a Pastor’s point of view this has healthy relationships written all over it! Healthy individuals make up healthy relationships...they also make healthy churches! Pastors should be jumping all over this!!!” – *Mike McGinnes, Sr Pastor Wellspring Church AG, Brewerton NY.*

A father attending a SUCCEED DVD session with his son said “ I could have never had the discussions with my son apart from the college student videos and speakers opening him up to the challenges and issues ahead, paving the way for discussion and giving me access to help my son in transition”.

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