

The GlobalChurch Project

[www.theglobalchurchproject.com](http://www.theglobalchurchproject.com)



## **Amy Williams – Urban Youth Ministry**

### **College and University Class Resource**

This resource is designed to help your classroom discussion. It has specific application questions appropriate to local church ministry contexts. Questions are organized in themes. They are ideal for paired discussions, group-forum style discussions, and personal reflective responses. Consider using a discussion method most suitable to your classroom setting. Select questions most appropriate to your group. Consider isolating particular themes.

### **Materials**

- Video: Amy Williams, 15 minutes
- Participants are encouraged to bring their own journals or writing materials

Theme explored in the video:

- **Serving Among Urban Youth**

### **Preliminary discussion**

1. What were the major themes in Amy's responses?
2. How does Amy describe the importance of urban youth ministry?
3. Discuss the difficulties of the content. What was difficult to understand? Was there anything you would like to clarify with the group?
4. Theological method: How is Amy's theology informed and shaped by her practical ministry? What approaches does she take in understanding God in the context of her day-to-day experiences and discipling?

### **Explore and apply**

Consider isolating a particular theme of interest for your classroom discussion. You might allocate topics or questions to particular groups or pairs. Or, raise particular questions in a forum style for group responses. Apply the answers to these questions in your own setting.

1. What inspired Amy's heart and passion for mission with urban youth?
2. What does "hope dealer" mean? Where did the name come from?
3. Why does Amy offer hope in a world of darkness? How is Jesus light in the darkness?

4. What are some key prevention and intervention strategies that Amy mentions?
5. What does this mean? “If he is the *I Am*, then I am the *I Am Not*”
6. What does this mean? “I am a recovering 4<sup>th</sup> member of the Trinity”
7. What is the role of life on life mentoring when working with urban youth?
8. Why did Amy move into the neighborhood with youth gangs?
9. What does it mean to do ministry *with no to* youth?
10. How does Amy stay spiritually fresh in such a demanding ministry?
11. Amy says she focuses on 3 things. Discuss these. “Knowing you’re called to the work, depending on God, and serving in community.”
12. What are the greatest challenges facing urban youth workers today?
13. What changes in youth culture are shaping urban youth work today?
14. What is the place of social media in youth ministry?
15. How can churches be more connected with urban youth today?
16. What does it mean to see youth as God sees them?

## Classroom ministry

Facilitate an opportunity for students to respond to the video in light of the classroom discussion. Consider inviting students to write their responses to the following questions.

1. What is God encouraging our class and me, to do?
2. In response to the issues raised in the video, what are areas I want to ask God for forgiveness in? How do I need to change? What does God want me to stand up for?
3. How do I need God to minister to me and my community, for us to better engage with the contextual issues of our community?
4. How can I gain a better understanding of urban youth ministry? What do we ask that God would do in our hearts?

## Prayer

Spend time in prayer over what you’ve learnt.

Invite the ministry of the Holy Spirit to clarify, heal, and inspire change for your participants and communities.

## Links

**Website:** [www.theglobalchurchproject.com](http://www.theglobalchurchproject.com)

**Book:** Graham Hill, *GlobalChurch: Reshaping Our Conversations, Renewing Our Mission, Revitalizing Our Churches* (IVP Academic, 2015)