Introduction to wilderness ministry

Nexus International / Wilderness Ministry Institute

In partnership with

Scripture Union Austria / Scripture Union Europe









Sunday April 25 - Saturday May 1st, 2027
Bad Goisern, Austria

Vision:

To see a generation of local leaders who have the character, confidence & competence to engage their local mission field and be effective in reaching youth with the good news of Jesus Christ.

Purpose:

As we look afresh at the experiential nature of Jesus Christ's teaching and training methods, there are many contemporary implications for recruiting, training, sending & sustaining leaders who are effective at reaching youth in modern urban contexts.

The purpose of this exposure training is to explore, as leaders, the Biblical basis & call for youth evangelism & discipleship and consider strategies in light of these principles. We will focus on incarnational evangelism & Great Commission style ministry that aims to invest in a few to reach the many. We believe that an opportunity to share ideas, pray & seek the Lord together will be invaluable in refining efforts in the unique ministry context of each participant. We will also share a Biblically authentic vision for outdoor and experiential ministry and provide practical ideas for employing these strategies in their ongoing work of evangelizing and discipling youth.

Since the beginning of time, the outdoors has been a special place God has used to transform people and bring them closer in their relationship with Him. In modern Europe, we have experienced time after time that outdoor and adventure activities provide unique opportunities to share the love and truth of Christ with young people whose lives are inundated with media influence, and who have largely adopted the post-modern worldview of secularized society.

Jesus rhythm of ministry, even in first century Palestine, included regular times of adventure & retreat -- times when Jesus taught his disciples important truth about the Kingdom and prepared for ministry in an urban environment through intentional retreat with His heavenly Father.

Objective

In partnership with Scripture Union, our objective is to provide a one week exposure course designed to introduce youth leaders to key theological and practical principles of outdoor ministry and equip them with introductory skills they can use in their ministry. Emphases of this course will include.

Familiarity with a Biblical vision of outdoor and experiential ministry

- Examine Jesus' teaching and training methods, seeking to discern principles we can employ in fulfilling the Great Commission.
- Introduce a Biblical history & theology of wilderness, including how God has consistently used wilderness to transform the lives of His people.
- Explore how a building a disciple making culture can provide a robust context in which to utilize wilderness ministry opportunities
- Discuss different ways these principles can be employed within modern cultural & geographical context.

Specific topics will include:

- Heart of the leader
- Full Spectrum Youth Ministry
- Framework for experiential learning
- Youth culture and the value of risk
- Facilitating experiential learning

OUTCOMES

- ❖ Refreshment in Christ through times of personal & group worship, & times for quiet reflection with Christ outdoors.
- ❖ A refined & focused vision & strategy for reaching youth in your local ministry context
- ❖ Practical ideas & principles you can immediately apply
- ❖ A strategy for developing a healthy, mature & effective ministry team
- ❖ An understanding of the value of outdoor & experiential ministry as a tool for both equipping leaders & reaching youth.

COURSE LEADERS:

Hans Widmann (SU Austria), Joel Vermillion (Nexus International / Wilderness Ministry Institute)

TRAVEL INFORMATION:

Arrival: Sunday April 25th (before 13:00) in Bad Goisern, Austria

Departure: May 1st after breakfast.

Cost: 440.-Euro (lodging, food, provision and training).!

Language: English

---------- Send this section back with an Email: ----------

Application:

Send to: Scripture Union Austria, Obere Martstrasse 18; 4822 Bad Goisern
Email: info@bibellesebund.at
Add Youth ministry experience and Travel Information to Scripture Union