



No Banana Splits: Building Lifelong Disciples in a Short Term World

Bob Perkins

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How do you build lifelong disciples in a short-term world? This is the major thesis of Bob Perkins' second book, "No Banana Splits." What began as a twelve-page "White Paper," has already been used as a training tool for youth ministry for over twenty years and has been read by thousands of people.

Now in a completely updated new edition available for the first time in its complete form, Bob has given the book a complete edit and included a deeper theological discussion and significant additional material for this new publication from Brighton Publishing. Bob lays out a theological foundation for his thinking, builds a philosophical outline for his model and gives concrete and practical advice for building a ministry.

By adopting the "No Banana Splits" model you will be free from the exhausting pressure to create the next event/gimmick/program, and will be energized to invest your life in the lives of others.

Bob began his ministry in the late 1970's as a volunteer leader and immediately rejected the idea that kids would be attracted to the Christian faith by gimmicks, program and events. He instead focused on the model of Jesus and invested in a handful of "disciples"--kids who were ready to go deeper in their faith and expend themselves for their friends--to have a major impact in a high school. These kids became the foundation for a twenty-two year ministry in Baltimore, Maryland, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, St. Louis, Missouri, and Ontario, Canada. In each place the "No Banana Splits" model of relational ministry was wildly successful.

The purpose of this book is to change the conversation around youth ministry and move it from an event/gimmicks/program centered model to a discipleship ministry where an investment in lifelong discipleship leads to greater and deeper ministry; Where more kids are reached and walk with Christ for their entire lives. It is a model for ministry where we can look back and see the disciples who have gone on to be faithful followers of Christ in their homes, work, churches and communities.

While Bob's focus is on youth, the principles in this book will be applicable to any ministry regardless of the age group.

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