

**CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
MESOAMERICA REGION**

**NAZAREN YOUTH INTERNATIONAL
Quadrennial Slogans and Annual Sub slogans.**



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Quadrennial Slogan.

Since the Church of the Nazarene gave opening to youth ministry, this have always had as slogan the words that Paul give to Timothy: "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12 NIV). This biblical text has been the flag and banner of our ministry since this was known as "Youth Society" until now that we are known as Nazarene Youth International.

Over the years, this biblical text was enriched with other ideas and took more specific meanings for each time period. This was how quadrennial slogans had their own logos, songs and other characteristic elements of its time.

According to NYI history, the first quadrennial slogan showed up at the Second Global Convention held in 1928 in Columbus, Ohio. Since then, every Global Convention has proposed quadrennial slogans for ministry development worldwide.

Quadrennial slogans, over time, have been of great help to NYI ministry development around the world: they have given a meaning to ministerial practices in districts and local congregations. Many of the activities that churches had developed have depended directly of annual and monthly emphasis that NYI usually present.

This term we have a very direct slogan: BE. DO. GO. They seem to be plain words, verbs given as an order, very simple prayers, but when we understand the invitation that each of these words want to give us, then we will realize that we need to know, understand and commit ourselves more deeply with the ministerial axes that the NYI have: evangelism, discipleship and leadership development.

We can, broadly, define each:

Evangelism – Luis Flores.

The NYI quadrennial slogan tells us that evangelism it is not about just preaching but being witnesses among society, from a biblical perspective being Jesus our role model. Evangelism is praxis and just praxis, youth people is being called to be evangelism.

A potential leader or youth pastor is the one who has learnt how to read the times, to prosecute young people and propose and aggressive evangelism, dynamic, creative and contextual. Therefore, be and evangelize through these following areas: praying, inviting, getting involved, discipling and testifying with your life.

To reach the task of BE and evangelize, NYI field provides you of very simply and strategic resources which you can lay a hand on as part of your local NYI using these strategies:

1. Be and evangelize through missions.
2. Be and evangelize through christian friendship groups.
3. Be and evangelize using GOL Project.
4. Be and evangelize in youth evenings.
5. Be and evangelize with your testimony or life style.
6. Be and evangelize performing social labor work.
7. Be and evangelize through youth festivals.

Our role model must be Jesus so we can be like him, being the salt and light of the earth to be branches so we can bear good fruits. Being and evangelizing is a whole ministry that requires: passion, intentionality, commitment and vision.

The announcement and presentation of the good news should be the priority of all, as by inheritance we bear in our gospel DNA. Paul says it this way: “For when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, since I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!” (1 Corinthians 9:6 NIV).

It is under this premise that we invite the vast majority of young people to incorporate and be of great support to the “be and evangelize ministry” by practicing and feeling part of this great challenge we have ahead. Be and evangelize being part of the great commission and leading in a culture of multiple changes. With your purpose being that young people: be, do and go.

Discipleship — Yeri Nieto.

We do not create discipleship: this is, we do not dedicate ourselves to create programs, events or a series of stuff to encourage following Christ, but we make disciples out of the people around us. We do it through our testimony, yes, but we do it intentionally using good talking, we behave in a certain way, we live with a highest sense of ethics (holiness).

It has been said that the church is called to make disciples, but the church is us! It has been said that our local youth communities need to create programs and promote activities so Christian discipleship can be lived; however, programs do not create disciples. Only disciples make disciples. Anyone or anything will replace this labor of ours that Jesus left us as commission (in an anonymous letter from the IV century talks about a dialogue between God and His angels telling them His plans to come to earth: <and who will continue this work? The angels asked him and God’s response was: Them, my disciples, I do not have another plan> (Lo mejor de los padres apostólicos: CLIE, 2004)

However, we always have lived in communities, we live alongside one another, complimenting each other (cf. Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Vida en Comunidad: Sígueme 2003), meaning that making disciples has nothing to do with the individual emphasis of personal holiness, but has to do with a neglected issue by churches in the tradition of holiness: the social holiness which was preached by John Wesley.

Leadership — Milton Enrique Gay.

2 Timothy 4:11-16

We always ask ourselves who is a leader and how to lead. The best leader in history is our Lord Jesus Christ, since he did not just taught but also modeled a philosophy of his ministry that he himself put into practice to achieve his goal.

Jesus chose his disciples not for what they were but for what they would become with the help and leadership and established a plan and simple process to select and train leaders of the new generation, for he had clear that he could not do it all so he invested time, knowledge, experience with the ones he called.

If you are a youth leader or a youth pastor you have to understand that you cannot do it alone, you have to intentionally and consciously plan a process that not just help you minister youth people but equip and develop them for youth ministry.

A good leader is the one who is a good follower of Christ and is being formed by our Lord Jesus in the way of talking, behaving, loving, faith, purity and takes care of himself so he can take care of others. They lead as Jesus did with love, mercy, humbleness, character and simplicity to guide others to the Kingdome of God.

Lead as Jesus led through this 10 steps and GO. Flight plan p. 73

1. Seek God in prayer: so He guides you to choose not the ones who are popular or charismatic but the ones that are willing to pay the prize.
2. Choose your leaders: according to their gifts, abilities, relationships, spiritual life, level of commitment and responsibility.
3. Develop and form your leaders: with the model 70-20-10 which is 70% work experience, 20% key relationships and 10% formal training.
4. Go with them spiritually: GO and walk with them and teach them with your life as a mentor that invests everything in his disciples.
5. Implement a strategy to follow: the NYI have these three development axes: evangelism, discipleship and leadership.
6. Delegate power and authority: to just the ones that know how to live under submission and authority.
7. Give confidence: GO and give them confidence, if they make a mistake be sure to be there to give them strength and motive them to do their best to achieve their goal.
8. Evaluate and monitor their work: make your leaders account their talents and their privilege they receive from God, acknowledge their triumphs and mistakes.
9. Multiply your ministry: after three and a half years Jesus commissioned his disciples and go.
10. The withdrawal: all leaders should know when to withdraw with dignity of his leadership and give it to the new generation.

Lead with the heart of a servant like Jesus: loving others with integrity and GO and do the same at your church, community, area and country.

We must DO and BE leaders that follow Jesus anywhere, anyway and in any situation. GO and do the same.

2014: BE. DO. GO

When Jesus Christ developed his ministry on this earth, he performed specific actions that left us a legacy. One of them, the most accurate, was calling the people who would be his inner circle for three years. Twelve men who were imperfect and with a lot of errors, but walked beside him, learnt from him and would continue his earthly ministry. Twelve men with specific names: Peter, Andrew, James, John and the others.

Twelve men that heard the same word: follow me. Twelve men that had a personal encounter with Jesus Christ. Twelve men who were called by the Lord by name and were given an indication.

Today, Jesus Christ keeps calling by name each person. Jesus, our Lord and Master keeps mentioning your name so you can obey Him. He keeps being the same God who does not want just followers or fans, but disciples and He is calling each young person from the Church of the Nazarene in Mesoamerica Region. Jesus Christ keeps calling John, a young student who lives in the city; Rose, a girl who lives by the mountains and works in the countryside; Alejandro, a teenager who does not have a dad; Valeria, a young girl from the working class who lives on the stress of the big city. Jesus Christ keeps calling each person by their name. He keeps saying each one: follow me. It is not an option, it is must heard and obeyed invitation for people who want to be His disciples.

This year, the Nazarene Youth International from Mesoamerica Region wants to recognize this fact, Jesus Christ is calling you by your name. He is inviting you to belong to His Kingdom, He is calling you up to be a “fisher of men”, he is attracting you to be of blessing for others, He is daring you to transform the world, He is asking you to obey him.

Jesus Christ invites you today. Jesus Christ speaks you today. Jesus Christ wants you to commit to Evangelism, Discipleship and Leadership Development.

Today, Jesus Christ tells you: Be, Do, Go.

2015: “Be. Do. Go”

Jesus Christ developed his ministry through people. He healed sick people, comforted sad people, raised people who had died; He spoke into the heart of hopeless people. And the more significant facts of this personal ministry of Jesus is definitely the calling of his disciples. Twelve people which He lived with, talked with, ate with and road many sides with.

However, although Jesus Christ called these men to follow him, each one of them had to make the personal decisions to follow Him. There are those who “left their nets and followed him”, the disciple who left his position of taxman and walked behind Him. Each of the apostles of the Lord decided to follow Him. We may not find a lot of words said by the apostles in the Gospels, but if we find concrete actions that give us evidence of this: they left everything behind; they followed Jesus Christ, embraced their mission and multiplied his ministry around the world. Today, we are the fruit of their ministry.

In this year, the Nazarene Youth International from Mesoamerica Region wants to recognize this fact: we need personally decide for Jesus Christ, we need to make the decision to embrace His mission; we need to say “Yes” to Jesus’s voice and his calling.

Today, I can say “Yes” to the Lord. Today I, whether male or female, teenager or young adult, living in the countryside or in the city, can, and I must say, “Here I am Lord”. Today I can be an element that transforms my community through Jesus Christ’s love. Today I can commit to evangelism, discipleship and leadership development.

Today I “Be, Do, Go”.

2016: “Let us be. Let us do. Let us go “

When Jesus Christ ascended to heaven, he told to his disciples to wait for the promise of the Father, who had already heard of him. He ordered them to stay in Jerusalem and to wait for something wonderful to happen. And it happened! The day of the Pentecost the Holy Spirit came upon those who were gathered, filled them and inspired them to talk with power and authority and give evidence about Jesus Christ. These people, filled with the Holy Spirit, began to speak about surrendering their lives to Jesus: “Repent and be baptized”, was their slogan for so long. They talked, invited, convinced and lured people to the feet of Jesus.

Today, as young people from the Church of the Nazarene, we must embrace this philosophy. We need to be filled with the Holy Spirit, asking God to flood us with His power, so we can go out, invite and attract our peers to come at the feet of Jesus Christ. Today each of us can invite our mates from school, work, family, friends, and each person with whom we have contact, to come and meet Jesus. Today we have the obligation to invite other people, to say come and invite them to live this life of love, joy, peace, kindness, self-control.

In this year, Nazarene Youth International from Mesoamerica Region wants to recognize this fact: we urgently need to invite other people to recognize Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of their lives, to live a life of holiness pleasing God, to be part in the Kingdom of God and to be part in our Christian family in the Church of the Nazarene.

Today, we can invite other people to meet Jesus Christ. Today we can tell them about the love and joy that only Jesus can give. Today we can invite them to watch a movie, play soccer, a funny evening. Today we can invite them to allow us pray for their needs. Today we can invite everyone to commit to the Evangelism, Discipleship and the Leadership development.

Today we can say "Let us be, Let us make, Let us go"

2017: “We are. We do. We go.”

Jesus Christ, our Lord and Master, called us to unity. He asked the Father that “that they also may be in us: that the world may believe that thou didst send me”. Jesus Christ, who even worked with people, recognized them as a community. He founded a church: A group of people who recognize Him as Lord. Jesus Christ is the bridegroom of the church; he bought her with his blood, to make her His own, to see her without stain or wrinkle. Jesus Christ invite us to be part of this church, Jesus Christ invites us to live in community, to recognize ourselves as a body that serves and adores Him

Today, the youth from the Church of the Nazarene recognize this fact: we do not live the Christian life in an isolated manner. We don't grow up in the path of Christ or each their own path or doing things as we want. No! Instead, we recognize that we are

a part of a community. John Wesley says that «no Christian will go to heaven alone», because that is the church. Is not about the other, or me, or you... it is about us.

This year, Nazarene Youth International from Mesoamerica Region, wants to recognize this fact: we are a community of faith who worships Jesus Christ, who embrace their mission and commit to accomplish His commandments. We are a community who live in holiness; we are a community who love our neighbors, we are a community who lives in love and unity, we are a community who share the love of Christ with concrete actions, we are a community who sees themselves as an agency for the salvation of people.

Today, we, the church, the body of Christ, the community of faith, can remember our biblical statements: we are the people of God, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, the light of the world, we are the salt of the earth, we are the feet and hands of Jesus Christ in our world, we are witness of Jesus in our society. Today, we commit to the Evangelism, the Discipleship and Leadership development.

Today “We are. We do. We go”

Slogans for 2014

These are the monthly slogans according to the annual sub slogan, for this quadrennial we will be having a permanent slogan, which will be presented to the church and will guide the work of the youth ministry during the next four years. In this way, every three months we will be emphasizing in Evangelism, Discipleship and Leadership Development through the different slogans and inviting the local NYI to use the resources provided by the region for the ministry development.

The permanent monthly slogans for this 2014 quadrennial are:

January – Be a Creative evangelist.

- Emphasis on Youth Friendship Groups
- Purpose: that young people from the church can be committed to develop groups of youth evangelism held in houses, through different activities and inviting people who do not know Christ.
- Suggested Activities: to start Youth Friendship Groups in different houses during all year long.

February – Disciple with love.

- Emphasis on Bible Quizzing
- Purpose: that the young people in the church can commit to study the Word of God through the Youth Bible Quizzing program, taking it not just as a competition, but as a discipleship program.

- Suggested Activities: creating discipleship groups using the official Youth Bible Quizzing resources and encouraging the young people to create teams to compete during the year.

March – Go and equip your leaders.

- Emphasis on the Academy of Youth Ministry
- Purpose: that the church's youth leaders can commit to be trained to serve better in the local church ministry.
- Suggested Activities: creating groups to study the 20 lessons of the Youth Ministry Academy.

April – Be a friendly person.

- Emphasis: Youth Camps
- Purpose: that the youth group from your church invite other youth people to know God through these camps.
- Suggested Activities: to make a local or district youth camp.

May – Make disciples who know God.

- Emphasis: In the Name of Jesus
- Purpose: that the young people in your church can commit to a life of continuous prayer and fasting.
- Suggested Activities: to have prayer vigils and fasting times, among the young people from the church.

June – Go and develop other leaders.

- Emphasis: Maximum Mission.
- Purpose: that the young people from your church can commit to the church's mission in the different levels of organization.
- Suggested Activities: to make a short term missionary trip to a nearby community, to carry out the Maximum Mission program.

July – Be the message.

- Emphasis: Goal Project
- Purpose: that the young people from your church arrange activities that involve sports and creativity to share the gospel.
- Suggested Activities: arrange sport tournaments in different places in the community where we have a ministry and bringing the gospel to young people.

August – Make responsible disciples.

- Emphasis: *Discipleship Youth Magazine/School of Leadership*.
- Purpose: that the young people in your church can have a better knowledge of the doctrine of the Church of the Nazarene and a time for formal study of our doctrine.
- Suggested Activities: carry out lessons from *Discipleship Youth Magazine* during Sunday School or in a study time during the week.

September – Go and be a leader in the community.

- Emphasis on Nazarene Compassionate Ministries
- Purpose: that the young people can develop a sense of compassion for the outside people and show them the love of Christ through their actions.
- Suggested Activities: to visit shelters, hospitals or places close to the church to arrange activities of compassion, such as food distribution, giving out clothes, etc.

October – Be the light in your community.

- Emphasis on “Each one wins one”
- Purpose: that the young people from the church can think about of people who do not know God and guide them to an encounter with him.
- Suggested Activities: to develop the strategy “Each one wins one” through the pastor’s leadership.

November – Make disciples committed with their churches.

- Emphasis: Local Youth Conferences/Week of Youth
- Purpose: for the young people from the church can commit to God and to their local church through activities that challenge them to live a life of holiness.
- Suggested Activities: arranging youth conferences or a Week of Youth in the local church.

December – Go, train and develop.

- Emphasis: Train programs
- Purpose: for the leaders of the local church to have a better training before they start the next year, so they can develop their ministry in a better way.
- Suggested Activities: that the district develops a time for training the local leaders from all the churches, so they can start the year with strength and encouragement.