



*Does this scenario describe  
your congregation?*



## OUR CONGREGATION IS NOT LOCATED NEAR A COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

### *Take a step*

Your congregation does not have to launch a major program with significant staff time commitment to have an impact on college students. By taking a single step, your congregation will begin a journey that could have a significant impact on the spiritual life of a student and their campus.

Does this describe your ministry? Our congregation is not located near a college or university. However, we have members who are college age students that grew up in our church, but they are away at college during the school year. Then consider the following strategies:

1. **Pray & Connect** – By name and let them know that they are being prayed for by keeping in contact with Facebook or e-mail. This may be done by:
  - **Youth pastors** - They know these students best and an occasional word of encouragement from home means a great deal. This could be included as an expectation in the youth pastor's job description.
  - **Adopt-A-Student** - Recruit congregation members to adopt a student with a commitment to pray for them during their college years.
  - **Mentorship** - Develop a mentorship program to equip and resource adults to mentor students starting as seniors in high school and continuing through college and beyond. This is a bit more commitment than Adopt-A-Student, so think through ways to train and provide materials to those willing to mentor.
2. **Pastoral Visit** - If a significant number of your students attend a particular college or university, consider making a pastoral call to their campus. Let your students know you are coming – share a meal or latte. If your students participate in a particular parachurch organization (CCO, Navigators, Cru, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship), you might consider seeking an opportunity to speak at the ministry's large group meeting.
3. **Congregation Mission Trips** - Let your students know of mission trips planned for the summer and find a way for them to become a member of the team even though they might be away at school when many of the pre-trip meetings and training sessions are taking place.
4. **World Outreach Opportunities** - Make them aware of World Outreach opportunities and ask your missions committee to consider supporting their participation in summer mission programs and special conferences such as Urbana.
5. **Summer Ministry** - If you have a large number of students returning to your congregation during the summer, consider developing a summer ministry to them. Information on how to get started can be found below.



**JOIN US!** Please let us know what the Lord has led you to do by joining the “EPC College Ministries” Facebook Group (<http://on.fb.me/z8xNm6>). *May the Lord richly bless your work!*