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ID YANGU

**Abstract**

Identity stands out to be the loudest voice that directs one’s life. Carl Jung`s quote “I am not what happened to me, I am what I choose to become” calls for the need for people to stand out to their identity. Teenagers often go through a period of self-discovery and exploration, which includes the development and formation of their identity. Identity refers to how individuals perceive themselves and the various factors that contribute to their sense of self. During adolescence, teens experience significant physical, cognitive, and social changes, which can influence their identity formation. It is at this time when individuals start questioning who they are and what they believe in. Teens may engage in self-reflection to understand their values, interests, and personal traits. In today's digital age, social media and technology play a substantial role in identity formation. Teenagers of this times mostly use social media platforms to express themselves, explore various identities, and connect with others who share their interests or identities. High Schools form a bracket where teenagers breed and get molded. At this age, peer influence forms one of the greatest factors that affect identity location process. It’s not by coincidence that the teenagers struggle with issues such as lesbianism, homosexuality, masturbation etc. To me, teenage hood is like a tornado which visits everyone, usually loaded with sand that covers one’s eyes from locating his or her identity. It’s a state of quagmire

Two years ago, I read a book “The Value of a Woman’s Worth” by Pastor T. Mwangi; the book addresses identity of women in the society and encourages women to stop seeing men as their enemies but to view them in a competitive manner. From this, I felt the need to address identity to another level of its foundation; in teenage hood hence **ID YANGU.**

**Objectives**

Our objectives are;

* Equipping a purposeful driven generation
* Raising a generation ready to affect systems positively
* Raising a generation who have identity

**Vision of ID YANGU**

To create a generation of empowered and purpose-driven young individuals with a strong identity in Christ, ready to make positive contributions to society.

**Mission of ID YANGU**

To provide one-on-one mentorship to High School and Junior Secondary students, fostering their self-discovery in Christ while imparting essential life skills, community engagement, and leadership development for a fulfilling and impactful future.

**What is ID YANGU**

**ID YANGU** is a teenage hub mentorship program that aims to nature and walk with teenagers in their process of finding their identity. The name ID YANGU is derived from the name identity i.e. my identity. It framed to be a fantastic and meaningful teenage hub mentorship program; that focuses on nurturing and guiding teenagers in their journey of self-discovery and identity development. Adolescence can be a challenging time, and having a supportive mentorship program can make a significant difference in a young person's life.

The name "ID YANGU" is not only sound but also meaningful as it represents the core purpose of the program, which is to help teenagers explore and embrace their unique identities. By walking with them through this process, the program aims at helping teenagers build confidence, self-awareness, and a sense of purpose, which are crucial elements for personal growth and success.

In ID YANGU, teenagers will benefit from having role models and mentors who can provide guidance, encouragement, and a safe space to explore their interests, passions, and challenges. It also creates a community among the participants, where they can learn from one another and form meaningful connections.

Overall, ID YANGU stands out to be a program with a noble mission, aiming to positively impact the lives of teenagers and support them in their journey of self-discovery. By focusing on identity and personal growth, this mentorship initiative plays a crucial role in shaping the future of the young participants and helping them navigate the complexities of adolescence with confidence and resilience.

**What next about ID YANGU**

ID YANGU will focus to handle students from High School level as well as Junior Secondary; instilling identity in Christ. It is one on one walk that with teenagers in focus to help them find their identity. This approach allows the program to impact teenagers at different stages of their development, providing continuous support throughout their formative years. Early adolescence in Junior Secondary and the later years in High School are crucial periods for identity formation, making it essential to address their needs during these transitional phases.

The emphasis on instilling identity in Christ is a defining aspect of ID YANGU. By incorporating faith-based principles and values into the mentorship process, the program offers teenagers an opportunity to explore their spiritual beliefs and values, fostering a deeper connection to their faith. This can be particularly beneficial for students who come from religious backgrounds or are interested in understanding more about their faith.

The one-on-one mentorship approach is another valuable aspect of ID YANGU. Providing individualized attention to each teenager allows mentors to understand their unique strengths, struggles, and aspirations better. This personalized approach enables mentors to tailor their guidance, advice, and support to suit the specific needs of each teenager. One-on-one mentorship can create a more trusting and open environment for teenagers to express themselves freely, helping them feel understood and valued.

The focus on helping teenagers find their identity aligns with the overall mission of ID YANGU. Adolescence is a time when young people start to explore who they are and what they want to become. Having dedicated mentors who walk alongside them in this process can provide clarity and direction, easing the challenges that often come with self-discovery.

Here are some potential additional aspects and benefits of ID YANGU:

1. **Life Skills Development**: In addition to identity formation, the program can also focus on teaching essential life skills such as time management, goal setting, communication, and problem-solving. These skills are instrumental in preparing teenagers for the challenges they may encounter in both their personal and academic lives.
2. **Academic Support**: ID YANGU can offer academic support, helping students develop effective study habits and providing guidance in making educational choices that align with their interests and future aspirations.
3. **Leadership Development**: ID YANGU also incorporate leadership development opportunities, empowering teenagers to become confident leaders in their communities and schools.
4. **Community Engagement**: Encouraging teenagers to participate in community service and outreach activities can instill a sense of responsibility and social awareness, further shaping their identities as compassionate and responsible individuals.
5. **Program Evaluation**: Regularly assessing the effectiveness of the mentorship program through feedback surveys, testimonials, and tracking the progress of past participants can help identify areas for improvement and ensure the program's continued success.

**# ID YANGU**