



1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12

THE ONE TRUE GOD
FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT
TOGETHER WORSHIPED
AND GLORIFIED IN THE
UNITED CHURCH OF
CHRISTIANITY
AND THE WORLD
METHODIST CHURCH

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Bible Verse

1 Peter 3:9

9 Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

Foster Care Gifts

Don't forget to bring in gifts of **personal care items** for the hundreds of teens who will be without a home this Christmas.

Teenagers in the foster care system often go unnoticed. Let's let them know that somebody really does care

Living Word Ahwatukee 1 Youth Update for the week of 10/12/14

Hello Chris

This past Sunday, we discussed how our choices have consequences, specifically regarding our choices of who we choose as our closest friends.



First, we reaffirmed that God not only wants us to have a relationship with Him, He also wants us to have relationships with each other [Genesis 2:18].

We reviewed our "**Friend Circles**" and discussed how our "Best Friends", who are in the inner most circle, have the most influence on the choices we make. We then looked at Proverbs for how there are consequences with the friends that we choose to have in our inner most circle. **Proverbs 13:20**, Walk with the wise and become wise, for a companion of fools suffers harm.

We said that this verse is basically telling us that we will tend to become like the people who we hang out with the most, our "Best Friends", because these are the ones who have the greatest influence on the choices we make and the choices we make help define our character.

We said that you will become stressed surrounding yourself with friends who are stressed or happy being with friends who are happy etc. We suggested that "wise" as used in the verse could mean to follow God's way while "fools" could mean to do things your own way instead. We concluded that we have the power to shape the person we will become by our choices of who we choose to have as our closest friends.

We discussed some of the qualities a "Best Friend" should have such as being trustworthy, faithful and wanting what is best for you. A "Best Friend" should protect you, support you and encourage you to grow as a person as well as grow in your faith as a Christian which means that you and your "Best Friends" should also share similar beliefs and values. A true "Best Friend" should help bring you closer to God and should also not be afraid to hold you accountable for your actions when you do wrong. They will put your well being ahead of the friendship itself even if it means losing you as a friend.

We said that it is not only important to choose the right friends

about them this Christmas and give them each a little something that they really need.

Don't forget:

Our Youth Life Skills class with Tom is every Wednesday night at 7pm for all Youth grades 7-12.

Don't miss these great lessons that you can immediately apply to your own every day life.

Youth Band

Please continue to work on your songs on your own and watch for the next group rehearsal announcement.

This Saturday!

Please come out to LWA this Saturday, 18th, from 8am to 10am to help build games for Harvest Night.

but to also BE the right friend. Being a true friend will naturally attract true friends.

We said that all of this does NOT mean that we should not have non-Christian friends or not be friends with sinful people. God wishes for ALL to be saved which can sometimes mean spending time with those who do not yet know Jesus to help influence them to come to the saving Grace of Christ. We can influence others just as they can influence us.

We said that Jesus showed us how we can spend time with, and influence, non-believers or those who make poor choices without us being negatively influenced by them. The most important thing Jesus showed us that we need to remember is to always keep our focus on God and to let the Holy Spirit guide us how to be a positive influence on others. The Holy Spirit will also let us know when it is time to "back off" or "let go" of a damaging relationship but we need to be sure that we are listening and take the necessary action when needed. We said that the best and easiest way to influence others and lead them to Jesus is to simply live with a Christ-like character so that others will be drawn to Jesus by your light that you shine.

YOUR HOMEWORK for this week is to find somebody new with a character you admire, watch how they interact with others and how they treat people. It should be somebody who could be a positive influence on you and help you grow as a person and as a Christian.

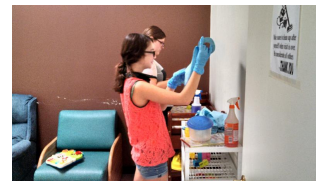
Get to know this person and ask the Holy Spirit to inspire you to be more like them and to also choose "Best Friends" who are a light in this world. In this way, you will become "wise" by walking with the "wise".

Next week, we learn more about who the Holy Spirit is and how He helps us.

Upcoming Events

THIS Saturday, October 18th:

Join us for our monthly community service project helping to clean the kids meeting rooms at Tempe Child Protective Services. We meet at LWA at **9:30am** and return after lunch.



October 25 - LWA Harvest Night - We need volunteers to help man our Youth Booth selling items as well as running our "Dunk Tank". We also need plenty of help setting up. Specific times will be announced and a sign-up sheet will be available in the Youth room soon.

November 7th - Winter Jam!!! We will be going on Friday,

November 7th to the Glendale, Jobing.com arena to see 10 bands for 10 bucks! You don't want to miss this event!

We will be **leaving from LWA by 4:30** to head over to the Glendale arena. Let us know if you can make it. Cost is \$10 cash to get in plus whatever you want for food, drinks and souvenirs.

Adults: Please let us know if you would like to chaperone and/or help provide transportation for this event.

[Check out the promo video here.](#)

**Bible verses referenced in this week's lesson:
Genesis 2:18, Matthew 22:37-40, John 15:12, Proverbs 13:20**

Download the "Friend Circles" [worksheet here](#)

Let us know if you have any questions.

Have a blessed week,

Chris & Michelle Miller
1 Youth Ministry

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