

1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12



Contact Us

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Previous Lessons

Bible Verse

Proverbs 22:24-25

24 Do not make friends with a hot-tempered person,do not associate with one easily angered, 25 or you may learn their ways and get yourself ensnared.

Life Skills Class

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

Living Word Ahwatukee 1 Youth Update for the week of 4/12/15

Hello Chris



This week we started a new series about what Jesus had to say about "mean people". We started with a discussion about "mean people" and their affect on our lives. We agreed that our most common, automatic, response to mean people was to be mean back to them. We learned that Jesus taught a much different way to respond to those who are mean to

us for no reason.

We took a look at what Jesus had to say in Matthew 5:10-12 as He was addressing the Disciples at the 'Sermon on the mount'. Jesus told them that they were blessed when people persecuted them because of Him.

We said that 'persecution' was unjust or undeserved punishment or ridicule. More directly, the Disciples would be punished and ridiculed for doing nothing more than living Godly lives and following Jesus. Jesus said that they should consider themselves blessed, having God's favor.

We said that we certainly don't feel blessed when others are mean to us for doing the right thing but Jesus tells us that we are. Jesus says that we should be glad because just as the Prophets, great is our reward in heaven.

He is saying that when we are persecuted because of our faith, we identify with other great children of God and are blessed in Heaven.

Another reason to feel blessed when confronted by people who are mean to us for no reason is that it gives us the opportunity to choose our response.

If we respond with meanness we identify ourselves with the

every day life.

world and show others that Christians are no different from the evils of the world.

But, if we give a Christ-like response, we identify with Jesus and other Children of God. In this way we show others the goodness of God in our actions and can be the light to help guide others to Jesus.

Responding in a Christ-like way also gives God the opportunity to not only bless us but to also work through us to bless the person who is being unjustly mean, remembering that most people who are mean are not entirely bad or mean people.

We discussed various situations in which we found ourselves in encounters with "mean people" and worked through worldly responses compared with Christ-like responses.

We challenged everyone, the next time they find themselves being persecuted, or in any 'bad' situation for that matter, to take a moment to resist the automatic negative "worldly" response and ask, "how can I respond in a Christ-like way so that God can use this situation for good and reveal His glory through me?" We can then actually feel we are blessed and maybe even be thankful for the "mean" people in our lives.

Join us next time as we continue to talk about how Jesus expects us to deal with "mean people".

Upcoming Events

Due to Women's Conference, our monthly community service at Tempe CPS will be on the 4th Saturday (April 25th) We meet at LWA at 9:30am and return after lunch.



Keep your eyes open for more awesome 1 Youth events coming soon!

Bible verses referenced in this lesson: Matthew 5:10-12

Let us know if you have any questions.

Have a blessed Week,



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