

1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12



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Bible Verse

Romans 14:1
 Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters.

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 every day life.

Living Word Ahwatukee 1 Youth Update for the week of 5/31/15

Hello Chris



In preparation for the addition of our newly graduated 6th graders next week, we talked about Judging, Accepting & Encouraging others.

We looked at **Matthew 7:1-5** and talked about how we are not to judge others hypocritically or condemn them in order to hide our own sin but instead work on our own sin issues so that we may see clearly to then help others.

We said that the problem with incorrectly judging others is that we are usually trying to convince ourselves that we are somehow better than they are. We don't typically judge others for their sake but for our own. Proper judgment requires that we do so only from a place of love for their benefit.

We then talked about how Jesus accepted Matthew, a tax collector, just as he was, with no condemnation or even making him "earn" his acceptance which then led Matthew to choose to stop what he was doing and follow Jesus.

We looked at **Romans 15:7** where we saw Paul telling two very different groups of people, the Jews and the Gentiles, to "accept one another" as Jesus accepted us. We said that it's easy to accept those who are like us but not so easy to accept those who seem different. Paul is telling us that accepting those who are very different or who we think don't "deserve" it, just as Jesus accepts us, brings glory to God.

We said that accepting others is a good start but we are also called to Encourage them as well. We looked in **1 Thessalonians 5:11 and Hebrews 3:13** to see that we are to encourage others and build them up rather than condemn

them or discourage them.

We said that on sports teams, games, races, etc. encouragement by the crowd, our peers, coaches, parents, etc. helps to motivate us to keep going and to not give up. As Christians, we are all on "team Jesus" and living a Christ-like life in a sinful world is no easy feat. Everyone needs encouragement in their walk with Jesus to keep going and to not give up when things get rough.

We said that sometimes just one kind word of encouragement can make a huge difference in somebody's life or can sometimes even literally save their life.

We talked about different reasons people come to Church and said that some people come looking for acceptance and for encouragement to keep going or for confirmation that they are not worthless and are loved.

Accepting & encouraging others is not only important in Church but is also important in school, at work, in social groups, on teams, etc.

We looked back at our first days in our youth group or at a new school or on a team and talked about how being accepted & encouraged made all the difference.

We said that when we see somebody in the same situation we should think about how we would want to be treated and make sure that is how we treat them.

Join us next time as we talk about who we are.

Upcoming Events

Summer Camp!

Don't miss Living Word Bible Church Summer Camp!
High School camp, going on now!
Junior High camp, for students going into 6-8 grade is June 22-25.

Each camp costs \$149 plus \$30 for transportation to and from camp. Each camp is also limited to the first 50 students who register.

Register for camp online at:

<http://livingwordonline.com/index.php/summer-camp>



Junior High Camp 2013

FX15-BeU Youth Conference!

Mark your calendars now for the biggest most exciting Youth Conference ever!

**November 12th through November 14th
at Living Word in Mesa**

Lots of fun activities for Junior High and High School students with amazing guest speakers and performers each day. Invite all of your friends!

More details to come...Mark your calendars now!

Bible verses referenced in this lesson: Matthew 7:1-5, Romans 15:7, 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 1 Thessalonians 5:11, Hebrews 3:13

Let us know if you have any questions.

Have a blessed Week,

Chris & Michelle Miller
1 Youth Ministry

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