1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12



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Previous Lessons

Bible Verse

James 1 19:21

19 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, 20 because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. 21 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

Life Skills Class

Our Wednesday night Youth Life Skills dasses with Tom are back!

Come out for fun, fellowship and maybe even a little learning about topics important to you. Living Word Ahwatukee 1 Youth Update for the week of 1/3/16



Greetings!

This week we looked at Ruth and redemption by reading the book of Ruth and verses from Revelation chapter 5. The themes we looked at this week included faith, redemption, and rescue.

We also discussed how we can be regularly grateful for God's rescue by being grateful for the life we get to live.

We began by reading the story of Ruth. The story takes place during the time of the judges. God was doing some amazing things in this story and we needed to read the entire book to understand the whole plot and grasp what God was up to.

In Ruth chapter 1 we were introduced to Naomi and her husband Elimelek; their sons Mahlon and Kilion; Mahlon's wife Ruth, and Kilion's wife Orpah. During this chapter Naomi, Ruth, and Orpah have their husbands all die. In Moab, where they lived, it was very dangerous for a woman to live without a husband, father, or grown son so they had to figure something out quickly. Naomi decides to go home to Israel and Ruth goes with her.

In chapter 2, Ruth and Naomi are among the Israelites, but still in a very difficult situation. They were living a life of poverty and had to pick the leftovers of crops, it is here that she meets Boaz. Boaz owns the field and helps Ruth out because he hears how she has been taking care of Naomi.

In the last part of chapter 2, Naomi comes up with a plan to find Ruth a husband. Her plan is very questionable morally but Ruth goes through with it and Boaz pledges to marry her. There 7:00pm every Wednesday night only at LWA! is just one problem is that there is a closer relative who can be the kinsman-redeemer for Ruth. Boaz tells Ruth he will talk with the guy and if he doesn't want to be her kinsman-redeemer then he will marry her.

The term kinsman-redeemer is a term we see a lot in chapter 2. The best explanation we can give is: if a woman finds herself in a situation like Ruth's-widowed and without kids-the closest male relative of the late husband was supposed to take the widow as his wife in order to make sure she was cared for.

In chapter 4 we find out that the close relative was happy to acquire the land that belonged to Elimelek, Naomi's late husband, but he wasn't willing to marry Ruth because it could have negatively impacted his own children's inheritance. Because of this, Boaz becomes Ruth's kinsman-redeemer and marries her. At the end of the chapter we see that Ruth ended up being an ancestor of King David and eventually Jesus!

In this story we see the themes of redemption and faith. Boaz rescued Ruth (and Naomi). When we look at this redemption and rescue, we can see echoes of the Gospel through this rescue that happens with Ruth and Boaz.

Next we looked at **Revelation 5:9-10**. We see that in these verses, John is given a glimpse into heaven and sees that Jesus is the only one that can open up the scroll and is recognized as the rightful King of heaven. His ability to open the scroll is attained through His sacrifice for us on the cross; this is what solidifies His Kingship.

This points back to the story of Ruth and Boaz buying back Elimelek's land and in turn saving them out of poverty and from a hopeless situation. We see that Jesus is the only one who could redeem us from the bondage and penalty of sin. He was slain and bought our freedom with His own blood.

We concluded by seeing that Boaz gave Ruth a new life and in the same way, Jesus gave us new life when He redeemed us by dying on the cross. We discussed that when we come to faith in Christ, we are saved from the death our sin earns us.

The challenge was issued to respond to God's rescue of us by being aware of the life we live. The challenge was to think about our most precious gifts and thank God every time we enjoy them and the freedom that has been given to us. It is all about how we respond to God's rescue of us.

Join us next time as we continue our series on seeing the Thread of the Gospel throughout the bible as we talk about wanting things that are not in our best interests.

Community Service

Our monthly community service at Child Protective Services will be **NEXT** Saturday (January 16th) We meet at LWA at 9:30am and return after lunch.



Please call 602-684-1820 or email us with any questions.

Bible verses referenced in this lesson: Ruth 1:1-18; 2:1-13; 3:1-14; Ruth 4, Revelation 5:9-10

Let us know if you have any questions.

Have a blessed Week,

Chris & Michelle Miller 1 Youth Ministry