

1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12

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Bible Verse

2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Life Skills Class

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

Come out for fun, fellowship and maybe even a little learning about topics important to you.

7:00pm every
Wednesday night only
at LWA!

Living Word Ahwatukee 1 Youth Update for the week of 2/28/16



Greetings!

This week we started talking about punishment. We said that every action has a consequence. If the consequence is something good, we consider it a reward but if the consequence is something bad, we consider it a punishment. Thus, a punishment is basically nothing more than a consequence for our action.

This is important to realize as we talk about the "Wrath of God" and the punishment of Israel.

We looked at **2 Kings 17:5-6** and **2 Chronicles 36:11-21** to see Israel and then Judah both continue to reject God, not listening to God's repeated warnings brought by the Prophets and continuing to worship other gods and idols and then finally both being conquered by their enemies and forcefully taken from their now destroyed homeland.

We said that if we had read these verses without understanding the goodness and grace of God, it would be easy to believe that God had lowered His hand of destruction upon them as punishment for their disobedience.

But, if we look at the same verses through eyes of God's grace, we see just the opposite. We see God repeatedly warning them over and over of the consequences of their actions, wanting them to choose to come back to Him, and then finally coming to a point where the best thing for God to do for His children is to remove His hand of protection over them and allow them to experience and learn from the worldly consequences for their choice to abandon Him. What's important to remember is that He never stops loving them or

caring for them and He even gives them hope in the promise of redemption and a new covenant.

We said that our own parents sometimes do the same thing when we refuse to listen to their warnings but it doesn't mean that they stop loving us. We may even do the same for a good friend who refuses to listen to our advice to stop doing something destructive but it doesn't mean we stop caring for them.

We then looked at **Romans 5:6-11** to see the realization of God's promise of redemption and reconciliation through Jesus Christ who permanently saved us from the consequences of our sin by His death on the cross and the new covenant promised by God.

We were reminded that we do not need to do anything to earn our salvation because it is a gift given to everyone through Jesus Christ. Like with any gift, we need only to accept the gift of Salvation to receive it.

We talked about what an amazing gift it is and how we should respond to our receiving such a wonderful gift with great gratitude, love, adoration and a true desire to follow Jesus and His teaching while sharing the good news with the world.

We said that when we fully understand the true nature of the gift we have received and everything that it includes, we will have no problem giving the appropriate response.

Join us next time as we continue our series on seeing the Thread of the Gospel throughout the bible and talk about Daniel and his life in exile in Babylon.

Upcoming Events!

Saturday March 19th - CPS Community Service

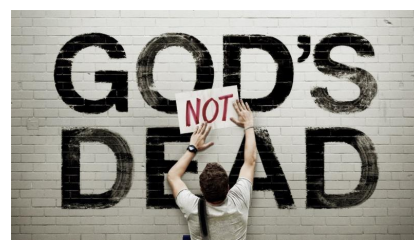


Our monthly community service at Child Protective Services will be Saturday, March 19th. We meet at LWA at 9:30am and return after lunch. Please call 602-684-1820 or email us with any questions.

Friday March 25th, Good Friday - Movie: **God's NOT Dead**

For those who missed the first awesome movie, God's NOT Dead, or if you'd just like to see it again, join us in the Children's Church at 8:00pm AFTER the Good Friday service for a special showing on the big screen.

Saturday April 2nd - God's NOT Dead 2



When a high school teacher is asked a question in class about Jesus, her reasoned response lands her in deep trouble and could expel God from the public square once and for all.

Join us on Saturday, April 2nd to go see the New God's NOT Dead 2 movie in it's opening weekend! We will meet at LWA and go as a group. Cost, Theater location and times TBD.

PARENTS: If you would like to go see this movie with us and help chaperon, please let us know ASAP.

Movie Trailer



Bible verses referenced in this lesson: 2 Kings 17:5-6, 2 Chronicles 36:11-21, Romans 5:6-11

Let us know if you have any questions.

Have a blessed Week,

Chris & Michelle Miller
1 Youth Ministry