

# 1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12

ONE  
FATHER  
SON  
SPIRIT  
GOD  
BAPTIST  
SUNDAY  
SCHOOL  
MEMBERSHIP  
GROWTH  
COURAGE  
HOPE  
FAITH  
LOVE  
GRACE  
MERCY  
PATIENCE  
KINDNESS  
GENTLENESS  
GOODNESS  
FAITHFULNESS  
MODERATION  
SELF-CONTROL  
COURTESY  
HUMILITY  
MEANS  
PEACE  
BROTHERLY  
AFFECTION  
GOODWILL  
TRUST  
FAITHFULNESS  
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SELF-CONTROL  
COURTESY  
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BROTHERLY  
AFFECTION  
GOODWILL  
TRUST

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## Links

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## Bible Verse

### Psalm 23

The Lord is my  
shepherd, I lack  
nothing.

2 He makes me lie  
down in green  
pastures,

he leads me beside  
quiet waters,

3 he refreshes my  
soul. He guides me  
along the right paths  
for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk  
through the darkest  
valley, I will fear no  
evil, for you are with  
me; your rod and your  
staff, they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table  
before me in the  
presence of my  
enemies. You anoint  
my head with oil; my  
cup overflows.

6 Surely your  
goodness and love will  
follow me all the days  
of my life, and I will  
dwell in the house of  
the Lord forever.

Living Word Ahwatukee 1 Youth Update for the week of 1/31/16



Greetings!

This week we looked at the rise and fall of Solomon. We read verses from 1 Kings 1:28-30; 3:4-15; 9:1-9; 11:1-13 and John 14:23-24. We saw that Solomon's rise was tied to God's blessing and his fall was tied to his own sinfulness. We also learned that our motivation for obeying God should be born out of our love for Him.

We also discussed how God gives some very clear conditions that have a definite result. He does not leave any room for confusion for His people.

We began by reading 1 Kings 1:28-30. We saw that King David revealed to Bathsheba that he was going to make Solomon the next king. He thought the decision was God ordained.

We next read 1 Kings 3:4-15 and saw that in a dream God asked Solomon to ask for anything and it would be granted to him. Solomon asked for wisdom and discernment on how to rule God's people. He knew he would have to completely rely on God rather than his own skill if he was going to be successful.

Because of his answer, God tells Solomon that He will bless him with a wisdom that has never been seen before and will never be seen again. God also tells him that He will bless him with riches and honor like has never been seen before.

We then skipped to chapter 9 and read verses 1-9. We see that Solomon has built a lavish temple dedicated to the Lord and a huge mansion before chapter 9. The Lord comes to Solomon

## 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!

a second time and declares a series of if/then statements. The Lord tells him "if you walk before me...doing all that I have commanded you...then I will establish a royal throne over Israel forever." He also tells him, "But if you turn aside from following me...and do not keep my commandments...but go and serve other gods and worship them...then I will cut off Israel from the land... and will cast them out of my sight..." God is very clear about the expectations He gives to Solomon.

Then we read chapter 11 verses 1-13. We see that Solomon has many foreign wives and concubines, 700 and 300 to be exact. His love has turned from God to these women. We also see that Solomon's heart has been turned to other gods because of his wives. He builds alters to them and begins to worship these other gods.

The Lord becomes very angry with Solomon because He gives him many opportunities to turn back to Him, but Solomon refuses. We talked about how this is the same with people today. God gives grace to people and when people sin He gives them opportunities to come back to Him, some choose to take it and some don't.

God tells Solomon that because of his choice "I will surely tear the kingdom from you and give it to your servant...but for the sake of David your father I will not do it in your days, but I will tear it out of the hand of your son..."

Even after being blessed beyond his wildest imagination, Solomon let his guard down and turned away from God. God requires absolute obedience because He wants our hearts to be wholly His. When were obedient, we show that we place His desires above all others, even our own!

We concluded by looking at the words of Jesus in John 14:23. We made a chart that had "if" and "then" columns. We saw that "if I love God...then I will keep his word...the Father will love me...God will make His home with me." We also saw that "if I don't love God...then I won't obey God."

This isn't a salvation issue. Salvation is by God's grace through faith in Christ. We're saved by Christ's work on the cross, not by our godly actions. But we also can't dismiss the fact that God WANTS us to obey Him. We talked about what our current motivations are for obeying God. We challenged the kids to really think about their motivation and be honest with themselves about how they loved God.

We saw today that God wants our hearts. He wants us to follow and obey Him out of our love for Him. We can try to obey Him for a number of reasons, but it won't be pleasing to Him and it won't last, we will burn out eventually if it's not motivated by love. We agreed that we must regularly remind ourselves how glorious God is and how deeply He loves us.

The challenge was to let those truths move in your heart each and every day as you grow closer to God.

Join us next time as we continue our series on seeing the Thread of the Gospel throughout the bible and talk about a "Kingdom Divided."

## Community Service



Our monthly community service at Child Protective Services will be Next Saturday (February 20) 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: 1 Kings 1:28-30; 3:4-15; 9:1-9; 11:1-13 and John 14:23-24**

Let us know if you have any questions.

Have a blessed Week,

Chris & Michelle Miller  
1 Youth Ministry