## 1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12



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#### Bible Verse

John 8:7-11

7 When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." 8 Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. 9 At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. 10 Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" 11 "No one, sir," she said.

"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus dedared. "Go now and leave your life of sin."

#### Living Word Ahwatukee 1 Youth Update for the week of 3/27/15

### Greetings!



This week we started by discussing that NyQuil, and many other cold medicines, only temporarily relieve the symptoms of a cold but do nothing to cure the root cause (the cold virus). Since the cold is still there, you need to keep taking the medicine to relieve the symptoms until the cold is gone.

We said what if we were to consider things like lying, cheating, stealing, etc. to be symptoms of having a 'sin nature'?

We compared cold medicine to the Jews performing sacrifices to "Atone" for their sins which means to 'cover up' their sins. Man's 'sin nature' (the root cause of sin) was still there so they needed to keep performing sacrifices to cover up or 'relieve their symptoms' of having a sin nature until the sin was gone.

For many, many years, God had been promising to send a rescuer, called the Messiah, to rescue man from our 'sin nature' once and for all and in our previous "Thread" lessons we have seen that the promised Messiah was indeed Jesus.

We read and discussed the delivery of the promised Messiah in the birth of Jesus found in Luke 1:26-38, Matthew 1:18-25 and Luke 2:4-20. We said that the Jews were expecting the Messiah to be a great warrior to deliver them from the rule of the Romans but God knew that the much greater need for His people was to be delivered from their sin which separated them from God.

We said that delivering the Jews from the Romans would once again be just treating the symptom and would only be temporary while Jesus was sent to deliver us from our "sin nature", permanently, so that we could have a relationship with God in eternity just as we were first created.

We said the response of the shepherds to Jesus' birth shows us how we should also respond to Jesus. We should respond by sharing the good news with ALL people and by glorifying and Our Youth Life Skills dass 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. praising God for delivering to us our Savior from all sin, His son Jesus.

We talked about how many people, especially teens, tend to look for answers to their problems in things like drugs, alcohol, bad relationships, gangs, etc. but again, these things just temporarily cover up the real root cause of the problem.

Acts 4:12 says "salvation is found in no one else..." There are many things in this world that may seem to temporarily relieve the symptoms of sin but Jesus is the only one who permanently removes the root cause, our sin nature, so that we may live for eternity in a relationship with God.

We talked about how even though some people may appear to "have it all together" and their life seems to be going great, if they don't have Jesus in their lives they are missing the most important thing and are sadly living with their greatest need unmet.

We talked about what we, as Christians, should do. If we had a medicine that would permanently cure the cold or any other disease we would surely tell everyone about it and share it with the world. It's the same with having the answer to salvation. We agreed that we all know people in our lives who need Jesus and as Christians we are called to spread the "Good News" so that ALL may be saved.

We said the best way for us to help those who do not know Jesus is to simply show the love of God by our example in the way we live our own lives. We can let them know that they don't have to change or do "good works" to be accepted by Jesus and be forgiven of their sin. God will change what needs to be changed in His own time.

We said we should pray for the Holy Spirit to guide us to those who need to hear about the love of Jesus and also to give us the right words to say so that they will be received.

We closed by picking one specific person in our lives who needs Jesus. We prayed that the Holy Spirit would guide us in how to speak to them and how to show them the love of God and we prayed that they would receive God's message of love and forgiveness.

Join us next time as we continue our Thread Series with the Baptism of Jesus.

# **Upcoming Events!**

Saturday April 16th

**CPS Community Service** 



Our monthly community service at Child Protective Services will be Saturday, April 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: Luke 1:26-38, Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 2:4-20, Acts 4:12

Let us know if you have any questions.

Have a blessed Week,

Chris & Michelle Miller 1 Youth Ministry