# 1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12



#### Contact Us

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### Bible Verse

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.
6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

#### Community Service

The LWA Youth, along with several adult volunteers provide an ongoing monthly community service project with the Department of Child Services (DCS).

On the **3 rd** Saturday of each month we

#### Living Word Ahwatukee 1 Youth Update for the week of 7/24/15

## Greetings!

This week, we talked about Stephen and the beginning of widespread Christian Persecution. We first discussed what it means to be persecuted and looked at some of the staggering numbers of Christians being persecuted for their faith in the world today.

We then talked about Stephen, who he was and what he did, in Acts 6 & 7. We noted that Stephen's power and wisdom came straight from The Holy Spirit and the religious leaders had much the same reaction to his performing wonders as they did with Jesus.

He was arrested and brought before the Sanhedrin on false charges of blasphemy. We looked at just a small portion of Stephen's lengthy response in Acts 7 in which he really let them know how messed up they were. Telling them that they, the religious leaders, had their hearts and ears closed to God's word and were unresponsive to God's guidance and even that they have not obeyed the law given them through angels. Finally, he said that they persecute the prophets and even killed the Messiah.

We talked about how we react when somebody calls us out on some sin we have done and agreed that we usually become angry and don't want to hear it.

Well, that's exactly how the Sanhedrin reacted, to the extreme. They were so angry that they dragged him out of town and stoned him to death.

We noted the peace that Stephen had while he was being stoned, he prayed for Jesus to receive his spirit and to forgive those that were about to kill him.

We also noted that Saul was there and that he approved of killing Stephen. In fact, that day, started the widespread persecution of Christians causing them to scatter throughout Judea and Samaria.

We said that God always takes what appears to be a bad

meet at 10:00 am at the DCS offices located at 1201 South Alma School Road (on the SE corner of Alma School and Southern Ave.

We typically spend about an hour or so deaning the family visitation rooms and the toys that the children play with while they are there.

Please join us and be a part of this blessing we bring to these children, to their families and to the tireless workers at DCS.



### Life Skills Class

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. situation and uses it for His glory. We remembered in Acts 1 that Jesus told His followers that they would be witnesses throughout Judea and Samaria and to the end of the Earth.

We saw that God was able to use even the persecution of the Christians to help spread the Gospel throughout the world. We also noted that while Jesus tells us that we will have trouble in this world and we will be persecuted as His followers, He also tells us that we have peace and the power of the Holy Spirit to overcome the troubles of the world.

We have the same Holy Spirit in us that gave Stephen peace when confronted by his accusers. Knowing this, when we are faced with insecurities, worry or fear of being persecuted for living and sharing our faith, we can have peace in our heart no matter what happens in the world around us.

We said when people see God's peace in us when we are faced with troubles, they naturally want to know more about how they can do the same which opens the door for us to share the good news with them and continue to help make disciples of all nations.

Join us next time as we continue our Thread Series when we learn more about Saul.

# **Upcoming Events!**

Friday, July 29th: Over-nite Lock-in!

That's right! Our next 1 youth Over-nite Lock-in is scheduled for **Friday July 29th starting at 10pm** and going until Saturday morning at 8am.

Join us for fun, food and fellowship!

Invite your friends!

Grades 7-12!

Everyone must read and sign these rules to attend!

#### Personal Care Items Drive:

1 Youth is again collecting "Personal Care I tems" for the teens in foster care. I tems for both male and female teens are being collected in the two bins just outside our youth room. These items will be sorted into personal bags and given to DCS to be distributed to teens who may not even have their own tooth brush or comb.

Whenever you're out shopping for your own personal care items such as soap, deodorant, tooth paste, feminine hygiene items or when you see the "travel size" shampoo, mouthwash, etc., pick up a few extra items and drop them in the bins.

Help share God's love by letting these teens know that somebody really does care about them.

**Bible verses referenced in this lesson:** Acts 6:8-15, Acts 7:35-41. Acts 7:51-53, Acts 7:54-60, Acts 8:1-3, John 15:18-21, John 16:33

Let us know if you have any questions.

Have a blessed Week,

Chris & Michelle Miller
1 Youth Ministry