1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12



Contact Us

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Previous Lessons

Bible Verse

Genesis 1:27

27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

Bible Study

Come check it our midweek youth/adult Bible study every Wednesday night at LWA starting at 7:00pm.

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 3rd Saturday of each month we meet at 10:00am at the DCS offices

Living Word Ahwatukee 1 Youth Update for the week of 4/22/18

Greetings!



This week we talked about where we find our own value and what it does for us. We said that it's good to feel "valued" but most of us typically base our own value from three main sources which cause us many problems.

Performance: When we determine our value in our own

performance such as being good at sports, academics, or being successful at our job, it feels really good when we are performing well. But, if we get injured or lose our job, we find ourselves feeling worthless, without any value.

Possessions: Sometimes we determine our value in the stuff we have and it feels really great when we have lots of stuff. But, if our stuff gets lost, destroyed, or stolen we find ourselves feeling worthless without any value.

Popularity: Many of us determine our own value in other people and feel great when we're part of the popular crowd or have somebody who loves us. But, when the people change their minds or our boyfriend/girlfriend leaves us we feel worthless and often spend all our time and energy trying to find somebody else to make us feel valued again.

Determining our own value in all these external things put us on a continuous roller coaster of feeling valued/happy or feeling worthless/sad and it's completely out of our control.

We said that it's great when we feel popular or maybe even famous but if we depend on those feelings to determine our happiness or self-worth then when things change or people change their minds (as they do) it leaves us feeling depressed, devalued, worthless, or sometimes even suicidal.

We found that suicide is the 3rd leading cause of teen death in the US (#1-accidents & #2-homecide) and the majority of teens who attempted suicide say that the reason was feelings of hopelessness or feeling worthless.

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 cleaning 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.

Foster Care Teens Personal Care Items

1 Youth is continuing to collect "Personal Care Items" for the teens in foster care throughout the year. Items 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. We said that we can get off the continuous emotional roller coaster by truly believing just two facts from the Bible.

- 1. God values you more than anything. He sent His Son, Jesus, to die for you. (**Romans 5:8**).
- 2. God never changes. He is the same yesterday and today and forever (**Hebrews 13:8**)

If we believe in just these two facts then it doesn't matter what we have, what people say about us, whether we win or lose, if people like us or hate us, whether we think we're fat or ugly or stupid or unwanted, **NONE** of that can ever change our value to God. God always values us above everything no matter what (He really does!).

We then said that Satan despises how much God values us and he will do whatever he can to try to convince us that we're worthless and unworthy of God's love.

Some things that Satan does is to get us to listen to what other people say about us or to compare ourselves to others making us feel that we're not "good enough". He gets us to base our own value and self-worth on our Performance, Possessions, or Popularity.

We looked in **Matthew 4** to see how Jesus was tempted by Satan using these very same methods (as were Adam & Eve). We saw that Jesus overcame Satan by clearly knowing, without a doubt, that His value came from God and it didn't matter what anyone, not even Satan, said or did to try to take that away.

When you truly get your value as a **Child of God**, nobody, not even Satan can ever make you feel worthless again.

We finished up by telling everyone to say aloud to themselves every single morning, as soon as they wake up,

"God says that I am amazing and worth dying for!"

If you do that, you won't need to waste your life searching for your value anywhere else, riding the emotional roller coaster. It won't matter what happens or what people say or how people treat you. You will know in your heart that the same God who created the universe also created you and He values you above all else and nobody, not even Satan, can ever take that away.

Watch for our next event here!

Bible verses referenced in this lesson: Romans 5:8, Hebrews 13:8, Matthew 4:3, Matthew 4:8-10, Matthew 4:5-6, Psalm 139:13, Psalm 100:3

Let us know if you have any questions.

Have a blessed Week,

Chris & Michelle Miller 1 Youth Ministry

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