

# 1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12



## Contact Us

14647 S. 50th Street,  
Suite 16  
Phoenix, Arizona  
85044  
480-584-6116

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## Bible Verse

Ephesians 4:26-27

26 And "don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry,  
27 for anger gives a foothold to the devil.

## 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 located at 3925 East Broadway, Phoenix, AZ.

We typically spend about an hour or so cleaning the family visitation rooms and the toys that the children play with

Living Word Ahwatukee 1 Youth Update for the week of 4/21/19



Greetings! Happy Resurrection Day!

This week we looked at what the big deal is about celebrating Easter. We said that the event that we celebrate is **THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENT IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD.**

The event is the resurrection of Jesus Christ and we talked about how it is the most important event in the history of the world for Christians and non-Christians alike.

We looked at several reasons that without the resurrection, there would be no Christians. We looked at what Paul was telling the Church in Corinth in **1 Corinthians 15:12-15** about their preaching and their faith being useless without the resurrection of Jesus.

We also talked about what was going on with the Disciples after Jesus' arrest. We said that they were rightfully terrified for their own lives, nobody expected Jesus to be resurrected as He said, and none of those commanded to spread the Gospel and make disciples of all nations had any thought of doing so at all.

They felt devastated, lost, and defeated and believed everything they had been working toward was over and done. Jesus was dead and gone so they gave up any hope and went back to their lives before meeting Jesus.

Then, just a couple of days later, all of that changed. Suddenly they were transformed from a handful of frightened Jews to the first evangelists, "on fire" for God and filled with the Holy Spirit, preaching and spreading the Good News everywhere, making disciples of all nations and turning the whole world upside down. What caused this transformation? The Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

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 even more important than there being no Christians was that without the Resurrection, there would be **NO SALVATION!**

Without salvation we cannot have a relationship with God and we cannot have eternal life in the Kingdom of Heaven.

We looked at what was going on before Jesus, or without the Resurrection, and saw that no matter how we tried, there was no way that we could ever save ourselves by our works or by being "good enough" to be in a relationship with God. The best we could ever hope for was to have our sin temporarily covered by periodic animal sacrifices.

Under the Law we are slaves to sin. We said the Law is all about condemnation and guilt and doing good works trying, and failing miserably, to be "good enough". But Jesus changed all that.

Just as the Prophets foretold, God sent His Son to live with us as an example, to die for our sins on the cross and to be resurrected to show our debt has been paid, yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

The Resurrection shows that Jesus is exactly who He claimed to be and it validated everything that Jesus said as true. It justified us before God as if we had never sinned and no longer being a slave to sin. The resurrection allows our Spirit to be reborn so we may live without guilt, fear, worry, condemnation, anger, hate, bitterness, envy, etc. Although, Satan uses each of these to cause us to doubt who we are and whose we are.

Most of all, the Resurrection opened the gateway for each of us to enter into the Kingdom of Heaven and have eternal life in a relationship with God as we were first created to be. We talked a little about how long eternity is compared to our life here on Earth and saw that we tend to worry a lot about such a short time in our existence.

We then said to imagine that when Adam/Eve chose to believe Satan rather than God and allowed sin to enter the world, all of mankind was suddenly placed into a giant "Escape Room" with only one correct answer needed by each of us to get the key needed to be set free.

We said that the puzzle was actually very easy and the answer to it can be found in **Romans 10:9** where it says "If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

The big deal about Easter has nothing to do with Easter

bunnies, colored eggs or candy. It doesn't even really have to do with being labeled a Christian or going to Church.

On this day, we celebrate, and thank God for, giving ALL of us the key to being completely free from the slavery of sin and to having an everlasting life in a personal relationship with Him as we were first created to be and to live for all eternity in the Kingdom of Heaven.

All we need to do is to believe that we have been given that key as a gift of God's unconditional love for us.

**Now THAT'S something worth celebrating!**

## Upcoming Youth Event

**1 Youth Movie Night - Friday, May 24 at 6:30**

We will be watching Mel Gibson's, The Passion of the Christ (Rated R). If you want to see what it looked like to take on all the world's sin and to really feel the tremendous sacrifice Jesus suffered through for us, come see this very powerful movie.

Please see us in the Youth room for **parental permission slips** for anyone under 18.



The Passion of the Christ - HD (Trailer)

**Bible verses referenced in this lesson: 1 Corinthians 15:12-15, 1 Corinthians 2:14, Romans 4:25, Hebrews 7:25, Romans 6:6-7, Romans 10:9**

Let us know if you have any questions.

Have a blessed Week,

Chris & Michelle Miller  
1 Youth Ministry

