

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.

our spirits will live on for eternity in one of two places and we get to choose to either be with God in paradise or be forever separated from Him in torment.

We looked at the chart again to see what other religions believe about salvation or life after death. We noticed that many had no promise of life after death and even the few that did talk about it made salvation available only to a "few" and under the condition of doing "enough" good works or being righteous enough by following lists of rules. No other belief talked of salvation being a gift of God's grace through Jesus Christ received by simply choosing to believe in Him.

So, it was easy to see why being a Christian was a good choice for our eternity but what about that tiny, tiny, fraction of time that we spend here on Earth?

We looked to see what the Bible tells us about what we experience by choosing to be a Christian. We said that we are given the Holy Spirit or the actual Power of God living in us to help guide us in God's will and to give us strength to help us through any situation as well as protection from any evil.

We said that we can live with the peace of Jesus in our heart to provide us comfort regardless of what's going on in the world around us. We are promised "hope and a future".

We also have the opportunity to follow God's good plan for us receiving His grace and mercy and His blessings as part of His plan. We said that is possible to still have bad things happen as we still live in a sinful world and "life" happens sometimes but we also have the power of God to help us through whatever the world throws at us.

We said that while it is also still possible to have good things happen to you without following God's plan, there are no promises without a plan which basically leaves your entire life totally up to chance.

We said that you would never think about building a house or even organizing a big event without following a plan and we saw some photos of what happens when you try to assemble IKEA furniture without following the plan. So how can we expect to live our lives without following a plan and what better plan to follow than God's plan?

Most of all, when you know who you are in Christ and you know the amazing life God has planned for you from the beginning, many of the daily troubles we face in the world suddenly have much less impact on us. We don't have to live in fear, worry, stress, guilt, anger, etc. or allow name calling, bullying, relationship problems, financial issues, etc. to negatively affect our lives because we know our true identity

in Christ and we know that God has it under control and ultimately has only the best planned for us.

We also talked about an important part of being a Christian is being blessed to be a blessing to others and how once we understand the amazing gift we have been given in God's unconditional love for us it makes sharing God's love and the "Good News" of the Gospel with everyone easier.

We finished up with a short video explaining life as a Believer in Jesus Christ in spoken word. The video can be seen below and it also goes along with the LIFE books that we have available in the Youth Room for anyone to take and to share.



Life in 6 Words

Upcoming Youth Event

Back to school overnight lock-in!!!

Yes, that's right! Join us on **Friday, August 16th at 9:00pm** for the best fun filled night of friends & fellowship that doesn't stop until the next morning at 8:00am!

There will be plenty of fun activities, food, music, and friends to last the whole night. (If you can't make it through the whole night, there will also be gender separated sleeping areas available for those who need to get some rest)

Bring pillows, clothes etc. to sleep in as well as clothes to get wet in (some of the games involve water).

Stop by the Youth Room for more information and to pick up a **Lock-In Rules and permission form** that must

be read and signed by a parent and the student.

Feel free to invite your friends (they will also need a signed form).

[You can download a copy here.](#)

Parents: We gladly accept volunteers for adult chaperones. Spend the whole night or just a few hours supporting and encouraging our Youth. See sign-up sheet at info counter or in the youth room.

Bible verses referenced in this lesson: Acts 11:26, Acts 26:28, 1 Peter 4:16, John 3:16-18, Jeremiah 29:11, Romans 10:9, John 14:6, Galatians 5:22-23

Let us know if you have any questions.

Have a blessed Week,

Chris & Michelle Miller
1 Youth Ministry