

1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12



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Bible Verse

Proverbs 20:3

3 It is to one's honor to avoid strife, but every fool is quick to quarrel.

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 while they are there.

Please join us and be

Living Word Ahwatukee 1 Youth Update for the week of 5/12/19



Greetings!

For our Mother's Day lesson, we started with the top 10 of God's commands to mankind, the 10 Commandments.

We noted that God's top 10 list consists of 4 commands relating to our relationship with God and the remaining 6 commands relating to our relationship with each other.

The commands all seem to be pretty important to God. After all, they did make His top 10 list. So, we looked at what God says is important regarding our relationship with each other and found a lot of "Do Nots" such as Do Not Kill, Do Not Steal, Do Not Covet, Do Not Bear False Witness, and Do Not Commit Adultery.

These all seem to make sense for living a peaceful life with other humans. Then we saw a "Do": "Honor your Father and your Mother".

We looked at what the word "honor" (or Kabad, in Hebrew) means and found it basically means high esteem or high importance or high respect.

We talked about why this would be so important to God that He put it in His top 10 list of commands that we should follow and why the word used was also often used when referring to the glory of God.

We said that if we look at the life of a child, our parents should represent God on Earth. Parents are created in God's image (as are we), they love us unconditionally, protect us, sacrifice for us, teach us, provide for us, care for us, basically everything that God is to us, our parents should also be.

When we looked at **Exodus 20:12**, we saw that not only did God tell us to honor our parents, He told us why. This commandment is the only one in the whole list of 10 that comes with a very specific blessing.

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.

God tells us to honor our parents so that we may "live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you". Honoring our parents leads to us living a long life.

So, we saw that it's pretty clear that God wants us to honor our parents. But, what happens when our parents don't do their part? What happens when our parents don't represent God on Earth or sometimes even cause us harm?

God didn't say to honor our parents unless they don't deserve it or honor our parents except if we don't agree with them.

Honoring our parents is not always easy and sometimes it is even not possible in our own strength. We discussed situations that may require us to even be separated from our parents for our own safety. We said that even in these severe situations, we are to still honor/respect our parents by not speaking badly about them to others and continuing to pray for them.

Also, honoring our parents doesn't mean just doing whatever they say.

Obedying our parents gives us long life and pleases God but the Bible is also clear that if our parents instruct us to do something that clearly goes against God, we are to obey God.

We said that in all cases where we disagree, we should do so respectfully showing honor for their position as our parents. When it becomes difficult for us to do so in our own strength we should ask the Holy Spirit for strength and guidance.

Since it was Mother's Day, we focused mainly on our mothers. We also recognized that not everyone may currently have a mother in their lives, for whatever reason, but there could be a person in our lives who fills that role such as a grandmother, aunt, big sister, or even a grandfather, uncle, or brother. who deserves our honor/respect for taking on that role for us.

We discussed the many ways that we can Honor our Mothers, not only on this day but everyday, ranging from a simple hug, saying thank you and I love you, to helping her out without being asked, to just being there for her when she needs you.

We finished the lesson with a challenge: After today's service, if your Mother or whoever fills that role is here, go find her, give her a big hug, thank her for everything she does for you and say "I love you." If this person is not here today then do it the very next time you see her.

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: Exodus 20:12, Proverbs, 30:17, Ezekiel 20:18-19, Acts 5:29, Colossians 3:20, John 19:26-27

Let us know if you have any questions.

Have a blessed Week,

Chris & Michelle Miller
1 Youth Ministry