1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12



Contact Us

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Links
Email
Website
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Previous Lessons

Community Service

Temporarily Paused

The LWA Youth, along with 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 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 Living Word Ahwatukee 1 Youth Update

Join us now every Sunday at 9:30 (New Service Time)

Remember: If you need to speak with one of us just text Michelle at **602-684-1665** anytime.

Don't Forget! November 13th Movie Night

Come hang out with us from 6-9pm on Friday,
November 13th for Fellowship, Snacks & A Movie!
Bring a friend, or two, or three!
See you there!

Good or Evil?



A few weeks ago, we talked about the difference between Good and Evil. We agreed that most of the time we determine what is Good or Evil based on our own feelings. So, we decided to take a look at what is Good or Evil according to God.

anything that goes against the Goodness of God is considered to be Evil. We said that basically anything that is of God is Good and everything that is outside God is Evil. In other words, God is Good and the absence of God is Evil.

We took a look at **Isaiah 5:20** where it says "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil... and we wondered why anyone would willfully call something evil, good.

We found an answer in **Mark 10:17-18** when Jesus answered the man who addressed Him "good teacher" by telling him "no one is good except God alone". We said maybe it really has to do with our definition of exactly what is good.

Jesus is telling us that man's standard of what is good is different from Jesus' standard of what is good. This is because man's opinion

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 bin 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 bin.

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

Bible verse of the week

James 1:17

17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

of what is good is based on the world while Jesus' standard is based on God.

We looked at this idea further in the wisdom of **Proverbs** in **Proverbs** 14:12 where it says that "There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death."

So this means that we can encounter things in our life that we truly believe to be good by our worldly standard but they are actually outside of God which means they are actually evil by God's standard.

That can get pretty serious when you look back to Isaiah 5:20.

Fortunately, we learned in **Hebrews 5:14**, that we can train ourselves to distinguish good from evil. We train ourselves by <u>Constant Use</u> of God's Word meaning that we learn by reading, studying, knowing, and living in God's Word.

We then discussed how it was possible for Satan to deceive Eve, who had everything she could ever possibly need living in paradise, and convince her that going against God was the right thing to do. We boiled it down to only one word, DOUBT. We said that Satan followed three basic steps to get Eve to doubt God's wisdom, trust Satan, and go against God.

We reviewed **Genesis 3** and saw that Satan first started his deception by getting Eve to focus on what what she did NOT have instead of all the goodness that she did have. He gets her to focus on one negative thing instead of all the positive things in her life. Eve could eat the fruit from any of the hundreds of different trees in the Garden except for one.

We also noticed that Eve did not know God's actual words that He told Adam. God never said that she would die if she even "touched" the tree. Satan used this along with changing the meaning of what God did say (spiritual death and separation from God). Satan directly contradicted God's word telling Eve that she will not certainly die (physical death).

When Eve touched the fruit and did not physically die it served to reinforce what Satan told her and to doubt what God told them. He finished it off by saying "For God Knows" which implies that God is hiding something good that is outside God.

In **Genesis 3:6** we noted that Eve saw that the tree was GOOD for food, PLEASING to the eye, and DESIRABLE for gaining wisdom. We said that it was not evil that caused Eve to disobey God but was rather something that Eve considered to be good.

In just these three short steps, Satan had succeeded in twisting God's character, causing Eve to believe Satan over God, and she was now convinced that God was keeping something good from them. "It appears to be right but in the end it leads to death".

We said that Satan is crafty but he is also lazy. When he finds something that works, he keeps doing it. He uses that exact same method on us today to get us to go against God.

- 1- He gets us to focus on the negative rather than being grateful for all the positive things we have in our lives.
- 2- He twists the Word of God to get us to doubt God's goodness. We said that if Eve had gone to the source (God) with her doubts

instead, she would have never been deceived by Satan.

3- He leads us to accept the worldly standard of good using our senses to see or feel with our emotions and to believe there is something good outside of God.

We said that today we can combat Satan's attempts by always keeping our focus on the goodness of God and on being grateful for all we have been given instead of negative things in our lives.

We can avoid being deceived by knowing God's Word and by bringing any doubts we have to the source (God) for clarification.

We can avoid calling something evil, good, by not depending on our senses or emotions to identify worldly good but by knowing that there is nothing good outside of God.

We said that Satan may be lazy but he also never gives up. The closer we are to following God's plan for us, the harder Satan will try to distract us from it. When we keep our focus on Jesus we cannot be easily deceived and distracted from the amazing life that God has planned for us.

Upcoming Youth Events

More details to come

November 13th - Movie Night at LWA - 6-9pm

Invite your friends!

December 11 - Christmas Party Wagner Home

March 2021 - Save A Life Conference

All 1 Youth Students and their friends in Grades 7-12 are invited to all events.

See you there!

Let us know if you have any questions.

Have a blessed day,

Chris & Michelle Miller 1 Youth Ministry