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.

Stop Living in Fear



A few weeks ago, we talked about fear and about living in fear. We said that when we focus on our fear/problem it becomes too big for us to handle and our fear actually stops us from moving forward to be who God created us to be. But, when we focus on God, our fear/problem becomes smaller and easier to overcome.

We talked about a "normal" every day guy named Gideon and how he allowed his fears to hold him back from what God had planned for him.

We talked about the story of Gideon starting in Judges 6. We found that, over time, God's chosen people had removed God from their lives. Their enemy, the Midianites, had grown tremendously strong in number and in strength in the past 200 hundred years and they were in the process of destroying all the Israelites.

We find Gideon literally hiding in fear from the Midianites and just trying to survive another day when an Angel of the Lord appears to him. The first thing that the Angel says to Gideon is, "The Lord is with you, mighty warrior." We said, Mighty warrior? Gideon, who was clearly living his life in total fear, a "Mighty Warrior"?

We said that when we use our own senses and see ourselves through the world's eyes, we usually see ourselves as nothing special and often find ourselves living in fear of doing anything.

But, the Angel refers to Gideon as a "Mighty Warrior" because that

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

Proverbs 29:25

25 Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.

is who he was created to be and that is how God sees him.

When the Angel tells Gideon that he is to go save Israel from the Midianites, he responds in the same way that we often do when we're living in fear. Gideon gives the Angel a whole list of excuses of why he couldn't possibly do what God wants him to do.

We were reminded that not only had God not given us a spirit of fear, He will also never send us out to do something that we are not first prepared to do, with Him.

After a long while of arguing with the Angel, Gideon finally gives in and agrees to do whatever God needs him to do. But, God really needs Gideon and the Israelites to trust in Him again. So, after some time and more conversation, God reduces Gideon's "army" to just 300 men to fight against the 200,000 trained soldiers. Plus, so there can be absolutely no way that the Israelites can say that they won by their own strength, God has them "attack" the Midianite army each with only rams horns and torches.

So, Gideon and his 300 men, with their complete trust and only focus solely on God, carefully followed God's very strange sounding instructions to the letter and of course they easily beat the Midianites. Actually, the Midianites ended up killing each other.

We said that God did not want the Israelites to simply just beat the Midianites, He needed them to learn to trust Him again and to understand their need for Him in their lives and He also needed Gideon, the "Mighty Warrior" to lead them in order to learn who he really was.

We said that we tend to like being "comfortable" where we are (in our "safe" box) and doing what God needs us to do can seem impossible and even pretty scary sometimes. But when we have faith and trust in God and we do what He asks, in His way, He will always lead us to victory for His glory.

We said that fear has been around for as long as people have been around and it is what keeps us "stuck" where we are instead of growing into who we were created to be in the Kingdom of God.

We said that fear is **NOT** from God. Fear is what **WE** create when we focus on the world instead of God. The enemy is very happy to help reinforce our fears and to help us focus on our circumstances instead of allowing God to help us overcome our fears and be who He created us to be, just like the **Mighty Warrior**, Gideon.

Upcoming Youth Events

More details to come

October 30 - Halloween Party at LWA - 6-9pm

Invite your friends!

Costumes are encouraged

Church appropriate costumes please

November 13 - Movie Night LWA - TBD

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