



# 1 Youth Ministry

## Grades 7-12



### Contact Us

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

### Links

- [Email](#)
- [Website](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [Previous Lessons](#)

### Midweek Youth

**Starting Jan. 6th**

Join us every **Wednesday** from 7-8pm for fellowship and prayer along with lessons applying Biblical principles to your life today and get answers to all your questions.

### 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 bin just outside our youth room. These items will be sorted into personal bags and

### Living Word Ahwatukee 1 Youth Update

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

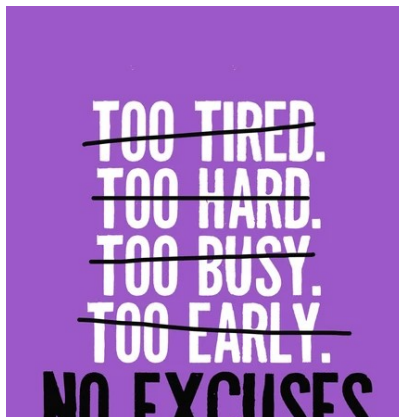
Remember: If you need to speak with one of us just text Michelle at **602-684-1665** anytime.

-----  
**Wednesday Youth Nights 7pm**  
**Starting January 6th**



-----  

## What's Your Excuse?



A couple of weeks ago, we asked the question; "Do you seize opportunities or do you make excuses?"

We listed dozens of excuses that we hear people use and sometimes even use ourselves.

We said that excuses are basically stories that we tell

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**

### **1 Timothy 4:12**

12 Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

## **TOO EARLY! NO EXCUSES**

ourselves that hold us back from doing something and can trap us in our current situation.

We said that most of the time we make excuses because we're afraid of failing or so that it's not our fault when we fail. We get this from the world constantly telling us what we cannot do so that we eventually start to believe we can't do it.

We looked in **Psalms 37:4** and found that God will put **desires/passions** in our heart and those desires are part of His plan which means He has a plan for what He puts on our heart. We also said that not only does God put His plan in our heart, He also gives us whatever we need to accomplish it.

The problem we have in following the desires God places in our heart is that God doesn't have small plans for us. God's plan is so much bigger than we can ever imagine that it often makes us uncomfortable or even afraid of leaving our small comfortable box we put ourselves in. Many times what God wants for us is scary and seems impossible so we immediately start making excuses for why we can't do it. We stay in our small comfortable box and we miss out on the amazing opportunities God has given to us.

When God puts desires/passions on our heart, He also prepares us to accomplish them. Plus, He stays with us to help us succeed. All He wants from us is **FAITH** that we can do it together.

We mentioned and talked about several people from the Bible that responded to God with excuses as to why they could not do what He needed them to do. In each case, God was understanding and they were eventually able to overcome their fears with **FAITH** and ultimately succeed in achieving God's plan for them.

One such person that we discussed was the **Prophet Jeremiah**.

We looked in the **Book of Jeremiah** to find that before Jeremiah was even born, God hand picked him and set him apart to be a **"prophet to the nations"**. We found that God has a purpose in mind for each of us before we are even born and He creates each of us for that purpose.

We said that being a prophet meant being God's voice to His people and it definitely was not an easy job. A prophet never knew where God would lead him, who God would have him speak to, or what God would have him say.

It was not only difficult being a prophet but sometimes it was even dangerous as very often the Word that God wanted delivered was not what the people wanted to hear. This just happened to be the case with Jeremiah.

Of course, upon hearing what God had chosen for him to do, Jeremiah gave God excuses why he couldn't do it such as, I don't know how to speak, I'm too young, nobody will listen to me, etc.

We said that these are all the same excuses that we use today when God calls us. We were reminded that God will never set us up to fail. He wants us to succeed so He always makes sure to equip us and prepare us for whatever is needed. He also doesn't just give us a task and then leave us on our own. God stays with us every step of the way to help make sure we succeed.

We also said that God's plan follows God's perfect timing so these things may happen faster than we may be comfortable with or they may seem to take forever. In either case, our **FAITH** in God's plan will ultimately bring us peace in our heart.

We finished up by putting ourselves in the shoes of Jeremiah or Gideon or Moses or the many others who were called to do things for God, overcame their excuses, and succeeded in God's plan.

We imagined ourselves being called in at the last minute, to quarterback or to pitch in the championship game or to fill in for the injured premier dancer or singer in a major production or to take over 1st chair in the orchestra for the big concert.

We imagined being called in to replace the valedictorian the day before graduation to give the graduation speech or any other passion or desire that God has placed in our heart and has been given to us as an opportunity to have the **FAITH** to walk with God and succeed in fulfilling His perfect plan that He has chosen just for us since before we were born.

### **We imagined God calling us to be His voice on Earth.**

Would we start giving Him a list of excuses for why we can't do it or would we boldly seize the opportunity to follow God's amazing plan for us?

We said the next time that you find yourself making excuses for why you can't do something, stop for a moment and think about why you're really doing that. Are you missing out on an opportunity to grow or to follow your **dreams/passions**?

**What's your excuse  
for missing God's calling you to your purpose?**

-----

## **Upcoming Youth Events**

More details to come

**January 6th 2021** - Midweek Wednesday Night Youth Service! Starting Wednesday January 6th we will have a Midweek Youth Service every Wednesday from 7-8pm.

Join us for fellowship and prayer along with lessons

applying Biblical principles to your life today and get answers to all your questions.

**March 2021** - Save A Life Conference at LWA  
Watch for details!

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

1 Youth Ministry, 14647 S. 50th Street, Suite 16, Phoenix, AZ 85044

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward to a friend](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Customer Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [chris@1youthministry.com](mailto:chris@1youthministry.com) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!