

# 1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12

# May 27, 2025 Faith in times of change

## Contact Us

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Foster Care Teens Personal Care Items

We are always
collecting "Personal
Care Items" for teens in
foster care throughout
the year. Items for both
male and female teens

See the sidebar for our new TEXT Prayer Request Line!
Simply text "I need prayer" to 844-533-3553 anytime,
and our team of Prayer Warriors will be praying for you.

## Sunday



## Faith in times of change

Last Sunday, we talked about change. Graduation to a new grade level, a new school, new friends, etc. We even turned the entire Youth room around backwards to experience a surprise change in our Sunday lesson.

We agreed that life is full of changes, sometimes big, sometimes small, sometimes good, sometimes maybe not so good. We said that while we can't always control all the changes in our lives, we can always choose to treat every change as an <u>opportunity</u> to draw closer to God and to grow in our Faith.

We talked about some changes that people stress or worry about and asked why some people are afraid when it comes to facing change. We said that it comes down to a lack of faith.

We then looked at a few leaders in the Bible who faced a lot of change and used their faith to not only make it through the changes but to ultimately



are being collected in the bin located on tables in the hall. 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.

#### This Week's Bible Verses

#### Malachi 3:6

<sup>6</sup> "I the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed.

#### Jeremiah 29:11

11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

#### 1 Samuel 17:34-37

<sup>34</sup> But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, <sup>35</sup> I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. <sup>36</sup> Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. <sup>37</sup> The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will

succeed in doing what God needed them to do.

We talked about Abraham, Moses, Joseph, and of course, David. We not only talked about the challenges they faced and how their faith helped them navigate them, we also noted that even though sometimes when their faith stumbled and caused doubt, it was always their faith that ultimately brought them back in line with God to fulfill their purpose.

We also mentioned a few others such as Noah, Ruth, Esther, Mary, Paul, and even the Disciples. In every case, it was their faith that helped them navigate the changes in their lives and give them peace in difficult circumstances.

We said, as you read their stories, you can see that while believing in and accepting Jesus as your Lord and Savior will save you for all eternity, it is your faith that helps get you to where God needs you to be while you're in this life here on Earth.

Then we wanted to know how we can also have such faith as those we read about in the Bible. We said that God, Himself, gives us the answer in **Malachi 3:6** when He tells us "I the Lord do not change."

We talked about how we typically build faith in friends or family members. We said that we use our previous experiences with them in the past to have faith that the same will be true in the present or future. But, while people change, God Never Changes.

We looked back at the story of David and Goliath in 1 Samuel 17:34-37 to see an example of David's strong faith coming from his past experiences with a God who Never Changes and always keeps His promises.

We said we've been conditioned by society to notice or focus on the negative and overlook the positive. Even when we do notice positive things they are usually blown off as being lucky or a coincidence.

But, when we focus instead on all the good things and on God's promises and on His Blessings, we can use these seemingly unimportant everyday things to help us grow in our faith.

We handed out post-it note pads and told the students to write on them to help remember all the good things God has done in their life. Then stick them somewhere they will see them every day to help remind them what God has done for them in the past to help strengthen their faith in what He will do today

rescue me from the and tomorrow, and the day after that... hand of this Philistine." We told them when they are going through a tough time, or time of change, or difficult decisions have to Visit our be made, look at all the times God came through in website here! the past and know that He will come through again. As difficult as change can be sometimes, choose to use change as an opportunity to lean on and draw closer to God, to help you grow in your faith, and to help you grow in your life. Also, don't forget to use your faith to show others the power that faith has in your life and let them know how they can have the same peace that you have in difficult times or changes in their lives as well. 1 Youth: Coffee Q&A With Michelle Pre-Service Coffee Q&A Sundays at 9:00am Join us in the Youth Room every Sunday, starting at 9:00am, for refreshments in a casual atmosphere for an opportunity for you and your friends to ask questions and discuss answers to your most pressing questions about God, Jesus, the Bible, other Religions, Christianity, or just about Life in general. Living Word Ahwatukee Email: chris@1youthministry.com Website: www.1youthministry.org

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