

YOUTH PASTOR NEWS

November 2011

Purpose

To encourage and continue to build our relationship with you, our Youth Pastors! My hope is that this newsletter will be a blessing to you and a helpful tool for your ministry!



Word of Encouragement:

What do people see when they see you? If someone walked in your shoes for 24 hours, what would they learn about Jesus Christ through your life? In 1 Corinthians 11:1, Paul says, "Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ." Working in ministry already feels a bit like living in a fish bowl—naturally people look to those in leadership to be examples. Yet, we are still human. We struggle with pride, selfishness, and other sins, and we are just as in need of grace as the youth and adults that we serve.

When people see me, I try to show them all the good things about me, the parts that are all put-together. And that is not all bad, but if they walked in my shoes for 24 hours they would learn about a broken sinner who is in continual process of being mended by grace and love through Christ. It is *that* reality that I think Paul meant when he said, "follow my example, as I follow Christ." In a world that shames imperfection, we can stand resolute with the Apostle Paul and say, "For the sake of Christ then, I am content with weakness, insults, hardships, persecutions and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong" (2 Cor. 12:10).

What do people see when they see you?

What's Next:

It's not too soon to put our winter retreats on your calendar! We have Chuck Knutson, the youth pastor from Crossroads Covenant Church in Forest Lake, coming to share with our Junior and Super High kids. Also, Joey Aquafredda from Covenant Harbor Bible Camp will be coming to share with the Trailblazer kids. The retreat dates are: Jr./Super Polar Plunge Retreat February 3-5, 2012, and Trailblazer Winter White Out February 24-26, 2012. Watch for more details, coming this December, and also watch for our Winter/Spring brochure coming out that month!

Let's Review:



Our Senior High Retreat this year had around 100 kids! It was an awesome experience to watch the students, along with the youth pastors, volunteers, and staff members worship and play together. We spent a lot of time in the Word, gaining an understanding of what it means to be a slave/servant. Scripture tells us that we get to choose whether we will become slaves to the world or to Jesus Christ – whether we will choose bondage or freedom. All in all, we had a great weekend! If your students were here, ask them about what they learned!



Have a HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!

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