



Oak Grove Baptist Church

Loving God and Loving People

February 28, 2011

Dear Friend,

The past several weeks have been somewhat draining in a unique way. Now more than anytime before, I am being exposed to the hurts and struggles of our teens and their families. I understand this to be a confirmation that true, deep ministry is happening, but it is not easy. Teenagers are dealing with very real, very complicated, internal and external problems. I say this not to sound despairing or negative, but to acknowledge my own journey in realizing just how important it is have my cup filled by God in order to be able to pour into the lives of others. I have been reminded just how wide The Fall's grip reaches and how often I must be reminded of the Hope we have in God. My prayer is that your family would be strong, that teens can find refuge within their families, and that the people in your kid's life care about and love him/her enough to show grace, mercy, and compassion when they reveal their brokenness, but never willing to give up on seeing them take that next step of healing as they understand more of who God is and who they are as His child.

Here are the details of the more formal ministry to your teen...

Sunday Nights *Inked & Bona Fide Heroes* - This Sunday will finish up our current teaching series challenging the students to live up to the high calling that God has placed on their life. The calling of being permanently marked by their encounters and experiences with God so that they are consistently described as a loving, humble, compassionate, & forgiving servant. Our next series will focus on the "heroes" of the faith in the Old Testament; ordinary men and women that were filled with the Holy Spirit and did extraordinary things. We will gain insight, inspiration, and motivation to live extraordinary lives.

Wednesday Nights *Jeremiah* - We are continuing to study the prophet Jeremiah within its original context. The kingdom of Israel is already split and Judah is about to experience the same exile and bondage that Israel has already seen. The lessons that the Jewish people should have learned back then are still relevant and practical for us today. We will be moving into a complementary series to *Bona Fide Heroes* once we finish up book of Jeremiah.

Trek - The junior highers are studying about the history of the Israelites. The highs and lows and how their interactions with the God of Abraham are still impacting the lives of young teenagers in the twenty-first century.

Planet Wisdom *March 18-19* - We are excited that Planet Wisdom is coming up in a few weeks and that we will be taking our largest group ever. If you still haven't read through the Parent Info. Packet you can find it [here](#) or ask me for a copy the next time you see me. I look forward to telling you how God has moved through the conference.

Monthly Resource www.covenanteyes.com & www.xxxchurch.com - Two websites that offer internet filtering and accountability software. It is very difficult to keep up with how your kids use the internet. You obviously cannot look over their shoulder 24-7. Schoolwork/homework makes it necessary or nearly necessary for a child to have the internet. Porn, online predators, gambling, and more can be alluring to teens and can quickly become an addiction. X3Watch at xxxchurch.com has a free accountability software and both sites offer fuller featured paid filtering and accountability software.

Pressing on with you,

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