

Dear Parents of Middle and High School Students,

The new school year is in full swing, and so is our Student Ministry programming! Here are a few key things to know as we seek to partner with you in making disciples of the next generation.

### **Student Equip September Schedule**

This month during the 9:00 AM Student Equip program, we'll be finishing our study through the book of Joel. In Session 1, we studied Joel 1:1-20 and discussed how God was using the locust invasion as a spiritual alarm clock, calling the people to wake up to their sin. In Session 2, we studied Joel 2:1-18, where Joel prophesies of even greater destruction that could come unless the people repented and returned to God. In the coming weeks, we'll continue looking at God's merciful character and his future plans for his people.

Starting September 20, we'll begin a short three-week study titled "Can I Trust the Bible?" We'll discuss how we received the biblical texts, how the canon of Scripture was finalized, and how the Bible has been translated. Apologetics studies like this are important as teenagers seek to understand why they believe what they believe. Encourage your student to be there!

Here is our September Student Equip schedule:

- September 6 | Joel 2:18-32
- September 13 | Joel 3:1-21
- September 20 | Can I Trust the Bible? (Session 1)
- September 27 | Can I Trust the Bible? (Session 2)

### **Sunday Night Highlight September Schedule**

I was so encouraged to see a great turnout of teenagers at our first Highlight gathering of the new school year! This semester, we'll be studying the book of Genesis together, and I'm especially excited about this study for a couple of reasons.

First, the book of Genesis is foundational for establishing a biblical worldview. The question of whether we create our own meaning and live under our own authority, or live within God's story and submit to his authority, is addressed in the opening pages of Scripture.

Second, all of Scripture points to Jesus. Genesis is filled with incredible narratives that highlight our need for a Savior and point forward to the coming Christ, who came to rescue us from our sin.

Here is our Highlight schedule for September:

- September 6 | No Highlight Gathering (Labor Day Weekend)
- September 13 | Highlight (Genesis 3)

- September 20 | Highlight (Genesis 4-5)
- September 27 | Fall Block Party & Worship Night (Genesis 6-9)

Be sure to circle September 27 on your calendar! This is our Highlight Fall Block Party and Worship Night. We're asking our students to be intentional about inviting their non-Christian friends to join them.

The night will start with fun and food on the front lawn of CBC, and then we'll head into the chapel for a worship night and gospel message. Please be praying that many non-Christian students would join us and that God would use the night to bring students to himself.

### **Student Ministry Prayer Team**

Last week, we hosted an Adult Leader Training for everyone who serves with our Student Ministry. One thing I emphasized with our leaders was the importance of prayer in a fruitful student ministry.

One specific prayer goal for our student ministry this year is that 50 non-Christian students would be invited to a student ministry program or event and leave having heard the gospel, received a gospel booklet, and been given a brand-new ESV Teen Study Bible.

We have already purchased the 50 Teen Study Bibles, and I'm asking you to pray with us that they would end up in the hands of teenagers who are searching for truth and that God would use his Word to bring students to faith in Christ.

If you would like to join the Student Ministry Prayer Team this semester, please click [this link here](#). By signing up, you'll be added to a group chat where you'll receive one text each week with a specific way to pray for our student ministry.

### **Recommended Resource of the Month**

Recently, our Kids Ministry rolled out a new curriculum during the 9:00 AM hour called Truth78. The name comes from Psalm 78, which encourages parents to tell the coming generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord.

Along with the curriculum, our church has access to the Truth78 family library. You can create a free account by [clicking this link here](#). If the link gives you any problems, please let me know!

One of my favorite resources you'll find is their Family Discipleship by Age plan. It includes family devotions and recommended resources for each age and stage of raising children, from newborns through 9th-12th graders.

I especially encourage you to check out the 6th-8th grade and 9th-12th grade tabs. There are some great resources and topics to think through and discuss together as a family.

As always, if there are any ways I can be praying for you or your family, please do not hesitate to reach out.

By God's grace and for his glory!

Justin Lorig

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