

The Reality of



being a teenage,
Christian military brat



USAFA Club Beyond
2011-12 High School
Curriculum

Overview

JUMP INTO THE BIBLE**Introduction**

This final 6-weeks of lessons, we will be going through the books 1 & 2 Samuel. A bit of the reason that we waited this long to progress through a book of the Bible is because we were engaging issues of the students directly, meeting them where they are at in life. With this final series we hope that relationships have been built and you can now introduce them to Christ through the Scripture.

In 1 & 2 Samuel, we will be looking at the life of David, where he started, how he came to be king, the mistakes that he made, and how he was redeemed through his lineage to the birth of Christ. There are so many good stories here to introduce to students all of which can easily be applied to the life of a teenager: knowing God loves you, trusting in Him, living the life God has for you, falling into sin, and yet knowing we can find salvation in Him (Matthew 1).

Enter Into The Whole Story

Because we are progressing through these chapters, keeping the verses we read within the bigger context of the book will be easier. But we must remain faithful to keep these Old Testament readings in context of the New Testament covenant. (See Old & New Testament” in the second 6-week overview)

While you read through these stories of David’s life, try to create an atmosphere for everyone. Some people (not even limited to students) learn really well through comprehension, this is perfect for them. But do not forget all the other times of learning that we went over in training. Some people are auditory and actually should not be the ones to read the passage out loud. Others are visual and may need a Scripture or a vivid interpretation with emotions and a “verbally descriptive” setting. This allow everyone to be engaged and it is encouraged that you use all of the different illustrations and resources at your disposal to do this.

Keeping Them Present

Spring is coming, school is close to finished, vacations are already being planned, and the students will be getting a taste of freedom with Spring Break. Most likely they are on the edge of their seats, probably from your amazing teaching skills but also because they are sick of being inside. I would encourage using the outside when you can, but when the discussion starts, that everyone is fully attentive. We are not looking for another classroom setting, but some of the stuff here is very important. Make sure to eliminate distractions and effectively use the “energy burning” activities during club.

week22

1 SAMUEL 16

King David was one of the biggest names of Israelite's history, but before the fame and success, God saw him for who he really was. For God, it is not about the outer success or "goodness", but it is all about the heart of the person.

Teaching

The chapter starts off with the prophet Samuel, initially called by God to bring in the monarchy, who is still reeling from the failures of Saul. Saul was the first king of Israel who God had told Samuel to bless and support. Unfortunately, Saul did not live up to expectations and lost God's favor a few years into his kingship. But God has given Samuel a new task, to go find a new king that will succeed Saul, within Bethlehem in the house of Jesse.

Since this is not the first time that Samuel has done this, he knows what a king should have. They need to be strong enough to go into battle and earn the respect of the generals and people. This requires a certain stature and build. At the same time, they need to be wise because they will be running a nation with laws, economy, and direction for the nation. So when he arrives at Jesse's house, he goes straight for the oldest, which would be expected.

*But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."
– 1 Samuel 16:7*

He turned down the oldest, Eliab, the second and third, Abinadab and Shammah. In fact, every one of Jesse's children present did not fit the bill. Yet, the youngest, David, was missing. It is amazing to see the King of Israel, God's most beloved, the hero that united the tribes of Abraham started out in such humble beginnings. Before he commanded armies and conquered territories he was the youngest in his family and a little shepherd's boy. In fact, being the youngest traditionally means that you are not going to carry on your family's legacy.

The Hebrew word for "youngest son is haqqaton. It implies more than age; it suggests rank. The haqqaton was more than the youngest brother; he was the little brother—the runt, the hobbit, the "bay-ay-ay-bee." Sheep watching fits the family haqqaton. Put the boy where he can't cause trouble. Leave him with woolly heads and open skies.²³

You have to wonder what is going on in David's head, he only knew a life of quietness with sheep, protecting them from the wilderness of bears and wolves and at the same time making sure that the sheep had food to eat, did not head towards a cliff, and felt safe at night. This left a lot of time to talk with God and reflect on who he is and might become. But never in his wildest dreams did he think he would end up here. At the same time, Samuel probably had different emotions as David came before him. Maybe it was questioning God, He did in fact get it wrong with Saul. It might have also been one of hope, seeing this charming and healthy young man who could be the future leader of Israel. Either way, Samuel did not have a choice.

Then the LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; this is the one." – 1 Samuel 16:12b

What was it that was so special about David? It was not that he was perfect, because David sinned several times, one of them becoming infamous and the beginning of the end of his reign (we will talk about that more later). But just as God had revealed to Samuel, it was not about the outer things, but the heart of David that made him a man after God's own heart. Unlike Saul, who in 1 Samuel 15 disobeyed God and then did not repent of his actions, as well as all of the kings that followed Solomon in 1 & 2 Kings who also did not repent after sinning, we see how David knows he has sinned and asks for forgiveness from God.

Wrap Up

We need to be all that God has made us to be. Let us not hold back our dreams or talents because "we do not meet the standards" set by man, because we have a God that we can do all things through.

We also want to make some announcements. Thank you for coming and I hope to see you back here next week!

²³ Facing Your Giants by Max Lucado. ISBN: 0849921023 (p. 16)

Scripture

1 Samuel 16

Other Relevant Scriptures		
Deuteronomy 5:29	Psalm 62:8	Proverbs 3:5
Matthew 5:8	Philippians 4:13	1 Peter 1:22

Questions

1. Rapid Fire Answers: Use three words to describe the person on your left. Use three new words to describe yourself that was not already said about you.
2. The words that were used to describe you, is that the whole you?
3. Why was David the best choice of all of the brothers?
4. David was not close to perfect, so what was so special about him that he earned the title “man after God’s own heart?”
5. What does it mean to have a pure heart? Is that even possible? Why or why not?
6. How do teenagers get a pure heart? What obstacles do you face?
7. Read Matthew 5:8. Have them come up with modern blessings specifically for teenagers that have a pure heart.

Illustrations

1. Game – Blanket Drop

Combine group into 2 teams and have them stand on either side of the room. In between them, have two chairs about five feet apart facing each other. Have two youth workers hold up a blanket between the two chairs (one team on each side). One representative from each team sits on a chair facing the blanket. At the count of 3, drop the blanket and the first person to say the other person’s name wins. Loser goes over to winner’s side.

📌 NOTE: This is a great icebreaker game to encourage participation for students who might not otherwise want to talk. It is extremely low risk and promotes simple conversations.

2. Music Video – Nick Jonas & The Administration
 “Who I Am” | <http://www.vevo.com/watch/nick-jonas-the-administration/who-i-am/USH5V0920981>

📌 NOTE: This illustration is a great one to use sometime in the middle of the hour to make a transition from the ice breaker questions to a deeper discussion.

3. Movie Clip - Rudy
 “Rudy, Rudy, Rudy” | <http://www.wingclips.com/movie-clips/rudy/rudy-rudy-rudy>

After years of sitting on the sidelines out of uniform, Rudy finally gets the chance to dress and play in a real game.

📌 NOTE: This illustration is a great one to use sometime in the middle of the hour to make a transition from the ice breaker questions to a deeper discussion.

week23

1 SAMUEL 17

This epic tale is one that is known to nearly anyone that has heard of the Old Testament. The courage and heroism displayed from such an unlikely place is inspiring, encouraging, and humbling. Yet, many teens cannot begin to trust God in such a way, though He is wanting to show His glory through us for our own sake and those that see God in us.

Teaching

We see amazing things happen all of the time. The Red Sox broke “the curse” that lasted so many years, the 1980’s USA hockey team beat the seemingly invincible Soviet Union in the Olympics, and my own grandmother has faced cancer and all the painful treatments that comes with it nine times in fifteen years and her face still lights up every time she seems. When David faced Goliath, it was another impossible odds situation that has gone down in history as the standard for being the underdog and winning.

You can always find a headline telling of a little-known challenger beating the “undefeated” champion. And almost all of them reference the original against-all-odds scenario: David versus Goliath. Whether it’s politics, business, or sports, someone always mentions the sling-wielding boy beating the well-armed warrior. David and Goliath will always be the prototype for upset victories. And in every case, the challenger wins because he has the guts to stare the big guy in the eye without flinching. Skill and ability might help, but courage produces upsets.

The Israelite/Philistine standoff lasted weeks because the armies were encamped on opposite sides of a steep valley and neither wanted to make the first move and attack uphill. Goliath offered another solution: He proposed one person from each side battle to settle the conflict. Nothing less than national sovereignty was at stake. But it was David’s firm belief in God’s sovereignty that enabled him to preserve Israel.

"This day I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other" - 1 Samuel 17:10

Of course, the natural choice for Goliath’s opponent was King Saul, who himself stood a head taller than anyone in Israel (1 Samuel 9:2). But he was awestruck by the seemingly invincible giant, who stood over nine feet tall, comfortably wore 125 pounds of armor, and carried a spear with a 15-pound warhead. Saul refused to fight, reinforcing the cowardice he had shown previously, (see 1 Samuel 13 and 15).

No Hebrew volunteers. Until today. Until David. David just showed up this morning. He clocked out of sheep watching to deliver bread and cheese to his brothers on the battlefield. That's where David hears Goliath defying God, and that's when David makes his decision... Skinny, scrawny David. Bulky, brutish Goliath. The toothpick versus the tornado. The minibike attacking the eighteen-wheeler. The toy poodle taking on the rottweiler. What odds do you give David against the giant? Better odds, perhaps, than you give yourself against yours.²⁴

We need to be courageous enough to allow God to do amazing things through us. That might mean being the first person in your family to go to college or maybe it means to be the only person on the football team to remain a virgin because of your faith or it could be as tough as standing up to friends when they are doing something you know is wrong. Whatever it is, have faith, surround yourself with friends (we as Club Beyond youth workers can be those friends) and family who will support you, and be courageous.

Wrap Up

Courage is a defining mark of those who have a heart like God’s. Jesus showed us God’s fearlessness, which we should emulate. In fact, as Christians we’re to fear God alone (Luke 12:4-5). Fearlessness is a function of true faith, which believes in God’s presence and promises (Hebrews 11:6).²⁵

We also want to make some announcements. Thank you for coming and I hope to see you back here next week!

²⁴ *Facing Your Giants* by Max Lucado. ISBN: 0849921023 (p. 2)

²⁵ A portion of this lesson was taken from the Simply Youth Ministry series *David*, Lesson 1: An Underdog in THE Epic Battle.

Scripture

1 Samuel 17

Other Relevant Scriptures		
Joshua 1:3-9	Daniel 3	Ecclesiastes 4:12
Luke 12:4-5	Matthew 10:26-28	Hebrews 11:6

Questions

1. Rapid Fire Answers: What is the scariest thing you have ever done? What is the highest you have ever been? Is there anything that someone here has done that you would not do?
2. What is the most courageous thing you’ve ever done?
3. How would you define courage? How is godly courage different from arrogance or stupidity?
4. David and Goliath had two different kinds of courage. What was the difference?
5. What do you think are the top five items most teenagers are afraid of?
6. What are some areas of your life, no matter how small, that call for courage today? If you have courage in that area, how might you benefit in the future?
7. What are your current life-battles that we can pray about?

Illustrations

1. Movie Clip - Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader
 “Caspian’s Speech” | <http://www.wingclips.com/movie-clips/narnia-the-voyage-of-the-dawn-treader/caspian-s-speech>

Before heading into battle, Caspian gives a speech to his shipmates to prepare them for what’s to come.

📌 NOTE: This illustration is a great one to use sometime in the middle of the hour to make a transition from the ice breaker questions to a deeper discussion.

2. Movie Clip - Mystery Men
 “Superhero Speech” | <http://www.wingclips.com/movie-clips/mystery-men/superhero-speech>

Shoveler encourages his fellow heroes not to give up and to fight on.

📌 NOTE: This illustration is a great one to use sometime in the middle of the hour to make a transition from the ice breaker questions to a deeper discussion.

3. Game – Ultimate Frisbee

Using two cones on each side, mark off the “posts” that the students need to be in to score. Frisbee thrown between team members; no hand offs; no running with the Frisbee. Any time the Frisbee touches the ground it is an immediate change of possession and direction. To score catch Frisbee in the opponents end-zone. After a score, possession goes to other team.

📌 NOTE: This is a great icebreaker game to encourage participation for students who might not otherwise want to talk. It is extremely low risk and promotes simple conversations.

week24

1 SAMUEL 19

Saul was a terrible bully to David and yet his son, Jonathan, was an amazing friend. We must understand that bullying is a real thing and we cannot allow it. As real friends, we must stand against bullying and protect our friends.

Teaching

*** Note: If a student comes forward about being bullied, this falls under the circumstances of being REQUIRED to inform the proper people. I must know about the situation within 24 hours.*

Hollywood could not write something as good as the relationship between Saul and David. David is a compassionate person that loves and respects everything about David, even after getting pushed around. Saul, a man that has been given everything, becomes jealous of David who has never given Saul any reason to hate him. Between 1 Samuel 18 & 19, Saul tries to kill David six different times, yet David does not fight back.

But the relationship between the house of Saul and David are not all bad. Somehow, Jonathan, Saul's son, did not pick up the hatred for David. In fact, the two of them are best friends, to the point that they made a covenant between the two of them. In fact, Jonathan loves David so much, that he gives up his title as prince and gives it to David because he believes in the young man.

Oh, to have a friend like Jonathan. A soul mate who protects you, who seeks nothing but your interests, wants nothing but your happiness. An ally who lets you be you. You feel safe with that person. No need to weigh thoughts or measure words. You know his or her faithful hand will sift the chaff from the grain, keep what matters and with a breath of kindness, blow the rest away. God gave David such a friend.²⁶

How amazing is it to have friends like that? At the same time, how terrible is it to have people that hate you for something that you did not cause and are relentless about making your life miserable. He was a true bully. Rich Van Pelt and Jim Hancock, authors of the book *A Parent's Guide to Helping Teenagers in Crisis*, wrote a great description of what a bully does:

- *Hitting, slapping, kicking, pushing, tripping, spitting, or otherwise assaulting another person*
- *Name-calling; unwelcome teaching, ethnic, sexual, racial, or body-type insults; threatening, menacing, cursing, or otherwise verbally attacking another person*
- *Theft or intentional damage to property belonging to another person*
- *Insulting or threatening notes, e-mail, text messages, graffiti, instant messages, or other forms of communication meant to harm another person*
- *Spreading rumors, marginalizing, excluding, or otherwise intimidating another person socially or psychologically²⁷*

For someone that is being bullied, they must tell someone they trust immediately. In fact, they should not stop at just one person; instead tell as many people whom they trust as possible. This includes parents, friends, teachers, coaches, youth workers, and anyone else who they think could help. This is where these teens can become a friend just like Jonathan, standing up as a true friend should.

Just as David did, they should not take matters into their own hands or sink to their level, instead allow those with the authority and responsibility to respond to this situation. Instead of reacting with their own bullying, get that anger off their chest and do not let it consume them. I am in no way stating that they should be okay with the way that they bullies treated them. What they did was absolutely terrible and they need to be punished by the proper people, but allowing it to fester and dominate one's thoughts will mentally and emotionally ruin them from the inside out. (Trust me, I know first-hand)

Wrap Up

Friends are important and we all need to strive to be true friends. This means to stand up to the people that are hurting others. We also want to make some announcements. Thank you for coming and I hope to see you back here next week!

²⁶ *Facing Your Giants* by Max Lucado. ISBN: 0849921023 (p. 23)

²⁷ *A Parent's Guide to Helping Teenagers in Crisis* by Rich Van Pelt and Jim Hancock. ISBN: 0310277248 (p. 137)

Scripture

1 Samuel 19

Other Relevant Scriptures		
Proverbs 15:1	Matthew 5:10	Matthew 5:39-44
Mark 15:16-20	Luke 6:27-36	2 Corinthians 12:10

Questions

1. Rapid Fire Answers:
2. What do you notice about bullying in your school?
3. When have you've been bullied, and how has it affected you?
4. Read Matthew 5:39. What does this mean for teens?
5. Why is it so hard to turn the other cheek?
6. How can you help stop bullying in your school?

Illustrations

1. Illustration – The Skit Guys
“My Best Friend” | <http://skitguys.com/videos/item/my-best-friend>

Tommy and Eddie sit down to talk about their longstanding friendship and what it means to be a great friend.

📌 NOTE: This illustration is a great one to use as a comic relief or at the beginning when you are introducing the topic, but not during or at the end of the discussion.

2. Game – Dangerous Animals Trivia

Play “Hot Potato” with a stuffed animal while “animal” songs are playing. When the music stops, the person with the animal stands up and the youth worker asks him/her an animal trivia question (see sheet at end of lesson). If student answers correctly, he/she gets an “animal prize” (gummy bears, sour worms, peeps, etc.)

📌 NOTE: This is a great icebreaker game to encourage participation for students who might not otherwise want to talk. It is extremely low risk and promotes simple conversations.

3. Movie Clip - To Save A Life
“I Feel So Alone” | http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KrRMTI-uO_Y

After witnessing his middle school best friend commit suicide, Jake finds Roger’s blog and begins to see what he was feeling that led to the dramatic events.

📌 NOTE: This illustration is a great one to use sometime in the middle of the hour to make a transition from the ice breaker questions to a deeper discussion.

Further Readings

Facing Your Giants: The God Who Made a Miracle Out of David Stands Ready to Make One Out of You by Max Lucado.
Thomas Nelson, 2008. ISBN: 0849921023 Thomas Nelson.

The only fish capable of killing a human on contact is...

Electric eel

The giant anaconda grows to

- 20 ft ,500 lbs
- 24 ft, 600 lbs
- **32 ft, 1100 lbs**

A Japanese spider crab can grow up to how many feet across?

2, 4, 10, **26**

An adult grizzly bear can weigh...

- 900 lbs
- **1700 lbs**
- 3,000 lbs

The bite of a King Cobra could kill an...

- **Elephant**
- a horse
- an average freshman

A Black Panther is really what kind of cat?

Leopard

What male animal has venomous spurs on their hind feet?

Duckbill Platypus

How far can a Tiger leap in a single bound?

- 12 feet
- **33 feet**
- 42 feet

A great White Shark grows how many teeth in its lifetime?

- 64
- 900
- **20,000**

These scavenger birds prefer their meat already dead

Vulture (Condor)

The fastest land animal, clocked at 70 MPH is the.....

Cheetah

Giant Squid grow to be how many feet in length?

12, 18, **60**, 90

week25

2 SAMUEL 7

After many years, David became the king of Israel and he had the ark with him, thus God was with Israel. Yet, God's calling on David's life was just beginning. Teenagers are in a time of change in their lives, but they must listen to God, friends, and family for what God has for them.

Teaching

By this time in King David's life, he had already accomplished many things. He had won more victories and killed more Philistines than Saul, added territory to Israel, gained the favor of the people, and best of all, returned the Ark of the Covenant that held the very presence of God to Jerusalem. Yet, the greatest thing to happen to David's life that would affect the rest of the world forever has yet to come, the Davidic Covenant.

God's relationship has always been one of grace and commitment on His part. Not every covenant is the same, but they normally have seven parts: explanation of the covenant, the historical reason for the need of a covenant, the ritual act to enter into the covenant, blessings for keeping the covenant, curses if they break the covenant, witnesses, and how long the covenant will last. Through the time of man, there have been four major covenants in the Old Testament: the Noahic, Abrahamic, Mosaic, and Davidic. By the time of David, three of the four had already happened.

- Noahic – God promises not to flood the earth. Man does not have to do anything.
- Abrahamic – God promises to make Abraham's family into a mighty nation (Israel) of tribes. Man does not have to do anything.
- Mosaic – God will bless the nations if they remain faithful to Him. Man must follow the Ten Commandments and laws.

David's life was a near endless list of accomplishments, yet God knew the importance of him at this point in time. This was David's calling, to be faithful in everything he does as a man and king and start a covenant that will bless the entire nation of Israel forever.

He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. – 2 Samuel 7:13

So how do you find your calling? For many, it sounds like magic or fantasy.

...how mystical it all sounded; that God would pick out some normal person and make them super special for ministry. Would God's calling be accompanied by bright light, an audible voice, smoke and lasers? I always wondered what God's voice must have sounded like (probably like Morgan Freeman's), and how it must have felt to be hand-picked by the Creator of the Universe for this special job.²⁸

Ask What It Is. Many people expect for their future to fall into their laps. We need to be proactive and ask what is next for us. Pray to God for answers. Ask friends and family what they see in you. And ask yourself what you find fulfilling and skilled at.

Listen For The Answer. Sometimes we ask the question but then become too busy to hear the answer. This might mean that we need to be intentional about stopping what we are doing and listen to those (God, friends, family) who have something to say.

Give It Time. People do not find their calling instantly. Many times it takes years to figure out. We need to learn life lessons, experience situations, and mature a little before we get to that point. Do not rush the process.

Follow Through. When you do find out what your calling is. Do not get distracted from it. Press on with passion and determination to do the best you can.

Wrap Up

We also want to make some announcements. Thank you for coming and I hope to see you back here next week!

Scripture

2 Samuel 7

Other Relevant Scriptures		
Genesis 12:1-9	Isaiah 43:1-13	Mark 10:45
Romans 11:28-32	I Timothy 4:6-16	1 Peter 2:9


Questions

1. Rapid Fire Answers: What are you known to be good at with your friends and family? (sports, technology, making friends...) Would you say you like it?
2. How did you discover you were good at it?
3. What all did you have to do to get better?
4. How would you describe someone being "called" by God to do something?
5. How do we find what we are called by God to do?
6. David was called out by Samuel to be king and then Nathan told him about the Davidic covenant. How would you react if someone came up to you and said you are called to do something? Why that reaction?
7. Are teenagers exempt from being called to do something for God? Why or why not?

Illustrations


1. Movie Clip – First Knight
"Born Again" | <http://www.wingclips.com/movie-clips/first-knight/born-again>

King Arthur offers Lancelot a place among his knights at the Round Table.

 NOTE: This illustration is a great one to use sometime in the middle of the hour to make a transition from the ice breaker questions to a deeper discussion.


2. Game – Wordsearch


Using the attached sheet at the bottom, hand out one to each of the people along with the pencil. Give them ten minutes to find as many as they can. Hand out a Club Beyond prize to the person with the most or the one to finish first.

 NOTE: This is a great icebreaker game to encourage participation for students who might not otherwise want to talk. It is extremely low risk and promotes simple conversations.

3. Game – Set... Go

Have everyone go outside to the lawn right in front of the chapel. Line everyone up against the hedges, and have one per student who thinks they are the fastest be in the middle. The object is for everyone to run from one side to the other without getting tagged by those in the middle. When someone gets tagged, they join the middle and it keeps going until there is 1 person left running.

 NOTE: This is a great icebreaker game to encourage participation for students who might not otherwise want to talk. It is extremely low risk and promotes simple conversations.

 Photo Op: This is a great illustration to take pictures with the potential for some very fun and candid shots.

Further Readings

99 Thoughts on Hearing God's Call by Johnny Scott. ISBN: 0764465279. Group Publishing.

²⁸ "Called to Youth Ministry" | <http://www.morethandodgeball.com/youth-ministry/called-to-youth-ministry.html>

Types of Calling

A H S I I R U E E R G W Q E D O C T O R Y P I B U A S E Z E
 B T U C O P S U E Z W F S T E R S Q K J R C H E F S L L X L
 N Z M H I R K M X D B P R E Y W A L M M A C M W Q C H H U O
 M G T S U E M R V J F J A L Y U A N U B N J X J P C D B U X
 N U W N P A N G O A Z P F H W V I S D A O I U O G S Q F S B
 A A M C R B M T R M U R I T D G I K U N I X O X P A A E S Y
 P U I G J R N M I S L E E A K C M F Y K S V J O F M E Y Y U
 W E O C K T E H W S Z A N V I R D F H E S X W A B N L G Y L
 G R K A I R N S E P T C P A R G T M L R I F E F K Y I B G M
 P U U A T R P E V N I H N S M Z Z R U T M Y F E Q J D G C A
 C W F F H D T D R P X E K H H E N R L J C X D J Y X N H E I
 D T B A G H D C H A H R Y B X L R K A D U Y J T G T J U J U
 R E H C A E T G E H P T O R D B F I E O J Z A L K X K G L O
 N Z C G M J S N T L M O P R L V M J F O H Y O J W T Z K J K
 J O U R N A L I S T E J L R L T B Z F N Y B E K A E Y Q B K
 T Y D X X R H K B X Z X D G Q K R Y U H F Z A Z I D L F S F
 O M L P I E O Y M I N X C F V G S U Z K U I M W Q I A D S T
 L X T O J Z A K C G F E A X X F A B G A E Z Q O O Z P K E I
 I E V I W X U F K C C A U U S G J M S K K W B X O S Y C N R
 P H X Q H K S Y D P B H J R Z N X G T U M W G S T B A P V X

ATHLETE
 CHEF
 FARMER
 LAWYER
 NURSE
 PREACHER
 TEACHER

AUTHOR
 DOCTOR
 FIREMAN
 MISSIONARY
 PARENT
 PROGRAMMER
 WELDER

BANKER
 ELECTRICIAN
 JOURNALIST
 MUSICIAN
 PILOT
 SCIENTIST

SOLUTION

Types of Calling

A H S I I R U E E R G W Q E D O C T O R Y P I B U A S E Z E
 B T U C O P S U E Z W F S T E R S Q K J R C H E F S L L X L
 N Z M H I R K M X D B P R E Y W A L M M A C M W Q C H H U O
 M G T S U E M R V J F J A L Y U A N U B N J X J P C D B U X
 N U W N P A N G O A Z P F H W V I S D A O I U O G S Q F S B
 A A M C R B M T R M U R I T D G I K U N I X O X P A A E S Y
 P U I G J R N M I S L E E A K C M F Y K S V J O F M E Y Y U
 W E O C K T E H W S Z A N V I R D F H E S X W A B N L G Y L
 G R K A I R N S E P T C P A R G T M L R I F E F K Y I B G M
 P U U A T R P E V N I H N S M Z Z R U T M Y F E Q J D G C A
 C W F F H D T D R P X E K H H E N R L J C X D J Y X N H E I
 D T B A G H D C H A H R Y B X L R K A D U Y J T G T J U J U
 R E H C A E T G E H P T O R D B F I E O J Z A L K X K G L O
 N Z C G M J S N T L M O P R L V M J F O H Y O J W T Z K J K
 J O U R N A L I S T E J L R L T B Z F N Y B E K A E Y Q B K
 T Y D X X R H K B X Z X D G Q K R Y U H F Z A Z I D L F S F
 O M L P I E O Y M I N X C F V G S U Z K U I M W Q I A D S T
 L X T O J Z A K C G F E A X X F A B G A E Z Q O O Z P K E I
 I E V I W X U F K C C A U U S G J M S K K W B X O S Y C N R
 P H X Q H K S Y D P B H J R Z N X G T U M W G S T B A P V X

week26

2 SAMUEL 11

We are not perfect people and fall short of the life that Christ lived and God expects because of our sin. The true test comes afterwards, do we repent and receive the grace of God or try to cover it up? At the same time, we need to have people in our lives that can help keep us accountable with our actions and thoughts.

Teaching

I have a deep love for the Food Network, seeing amazing chefs do amazing things. One of the great shows on this station is called Cupcake Wars, where they are given strange ingredients, sixty minutes, and expected to make a savory, moist, and beautiful cup cake that is better than the other contestants. Then three judges make a decision on who has the best cupcake and the winner gets \$10,000 and the opportunity to showcase their cupcakes at the winning gig.²⁹

One of the episodes, the chef decides she wants to do everything for her cupcake, fancy sugar art, filling, and a tough cupcake to cook. The judges warned her about her ambition, though she made it into the final round, where the contestants have to make 1,000 of those previous cupcakes and a beautiful stand. There was no doubted about her talents, the judges thought it was the best cupcake they had seen all season, but she did not heed their warning and lost because of a bad presentation.

David had a similar situation, God told David to guard his heart and seek after Him. They even formalized it in the Davidic covenant, yet David's mind wondered. It is not like he was looking for trouble to get into, he just could not sleep. Next thing you know, he is having an affair with a married woman. The reaction that should have come about is repenting and making an amends, but instead he went for the cover up. After several attempts, he finally "succeeds" in covering it up by having Uriah, Bathsheba's husband murdered. It was early enough in the pregnancy that Bathsheba was not showing, so being the "good king" he is, he married her to keep her safe and well fed.

We all face sins that have repercussions, teens too:

*"I've been sleeping with my girlfriend."
"I've been getting drunk with my friends."*

*"I stole something from my parents."
"I lied about a speeding ticket."*

The problem is that he was trying to cover up the scandal with men, when he should have been more worried about how God who sees all things saw it. But David invited accountability into his life to keep him away from sin. We as Christians, especially in the early stages of life as a teen, need to learn how to be a good accountability friend. So what will we need to do if a friend finds themselves in this situation and come to us for help?

Listen With Compassion, Not Judgment. All people sin. Resist the urge to be self-righteous. Engage with empathy and compassion, not judgment.

Place The Sin In Context With God's Word. Sin is a deviation from God's standard of holiness. If we don't establish God's Word as the authority for our lives, then we are really only teaching students a generic brand of nebulous morality.

Reinforce Forgiveness. Encourage them to see this forgiveness for what it is: an all encompassing grace that was purchased by Christ on the cross. Explain that the debt their sin earned has literally been paid by Christ, wiped away, never to be thought of again by God.

Explain Repentance. This is key, and seemingly, gets passed over sometimes. Repentance is a HUGE aspect of our relationship with Christ. Repentance is the willful decision to stop sinning. It is the Spirit-empowered act of turning in the opposite direction of our sinful ways.

Deal With Consequences, Relationally. Students may need help understanding the consequences of their actions. And based on their sin, you may need to help walk with them through this time.³⁰

Wrap Up

We all need to find accountability for ourselves so that when we are faced with sin we can avoid it together and when we do sin we can come to them for help and prayers. We also want to make some announcements. Thank you for coming and I hope to see you back here next week!

²⁹ <http://www.foodnetwork.com/cupcake-wars/index.html>

³⁰ "Youth Ministry Essentials: Dealing With Sin In Students' Lives" | <http://youthministry360.com/training/youth-ministry-essentials-dealing-with-sin-in->

Scripture

2 Samuel 11

Other Relevant Scriptures		
Genesis 3	Matthew 5:27-30	Acts 17:30
Romans 2:1-4	2 Corinthians 7:10	Galatians 5:13-15


Questions


1. Rapid Fire Answers: Who do you hang out with at lunch? What all do you talk about? Who is someone that you feel you can tell anything about yourself?
2. Who are the four main people in this story and how do they relate to everyone else? (David, Bathsheba, Uriah, Nathan)
3. How did David sin? How did he follow up to that sin?
4. What is one thing David could have done differently? How would that have changed the story?
5. How did Nathan provide accountability to David?
6. Can a teenager have someone to be accountable to? If so, who? If not, why not?
7. Who would be someone or someone's that could help you? (If they pick someone of the same age, challenge them why this could be bad? i.e. they face the same struggles and do not have the experience/wisdom)

Illustrations

1. Game – Inverted Blob

Move the group somewhere that is big enough to move around and is okay to fall (i.e. outside in grass). Have the students line up together holding hands and then “roll them up” so that the whole group is one massive blob. The objective is for the person on the inside of the group to get to the outside and vice versa without letting go of their hands or unrolling. Keep the group in the blob for the next game.


 NOTE: This is a great icebreaker game to encourage participation for students who might not otherwise want to talk. It is extremely low risk and promotes simple conversations.


 Photo Op: This is a great illustration to take pictures with the potential for some very fun and candid shots.

2. Game - Blob Relay

(For those that did not play Inverted Blob before) Move the group somewhere that is big enough to move around and is okay to fall (i.e. outside in grass). Have the students line up together holding hands and then “roll them up” so that the whole group is one massive blob.

The objective for the whole group is to go from one side of the area to the other, turn around, and come back. Make it a competition after doing it once by breaking the group up into two or three blobs and race.


 NOTE: This is a great icebreaker game to encourage participation for students who might not otherwise want to talk. It is extremely low risk and promotes simple conversations.

 Photo Op: This is a great illustration to take pictures with the potential for some very fun and candid shots.

3. Movie Clip – Hitch

“Kissing Lesson” | <http://www.wingclips.com/movie-clips/hitch/kissing-lesson>

Hitch coaches Albert on the proper way to initiate a first kiss with a girl.

 NOTE: This illustration is a great one to use sometime in the middle of the hour to make a transition from the ice breaker questions to a deeper discussion.

week27

MATTHEW 1

David's life was not perfect by any means, but his name, family, and legacy went up to the life of Christ. Teenagers are always moving forward, but now is the time to start a legacy. What we do now will be what we are known for forever.

Teaching

Everyone leaves a legacy of some kind. Some legacies are good, some are bad, and others are average. When you started your spiritual journey, people helped and guided you along the way. The challenge is for you to do the same thing in the lives of people around you. You don't have to wait until you're older. If you've been a Christ-follower for a while, it's important to be teaching others—investing in the legacy of other Christians.

Just think of some of the most famous people in history, what kind of legacy did they leave? Abraham Lincoln, Adolf Hitler, Neil Armstrong, Genghis Khan, Martin Luther King Jr., Saddam Hussein, Albert Einstein, , Christopher Columbus. They all left some impression on history, be it good or bad.

Taylor Swift, a young pop star and role model for many, gave an amazing response to the best advice she has ever received:

“Live your life like you're 80 looking back on your teenage years. You know if your dad calls you at eight in the morning and asks if you want to go to breakfast? As a teenager you're like no, I want to sleep. As an 80-year-old looking back, you have that breakfast with your dad. It's just little things like that that helped me when I was a teenager in terms of making the choices you won't regret later.”³¹

David's life might have ended on a negative note, but through history he has become known as one of the most prominent people in the Israelite history. We see that David is one of the key points in the ancestry of Christ, his covenant ultimately fulfilled in Christ. The covenant states that God will establish the kingdom through him forever, this happens with the final sacrifice that is Christ on the cross. At the same time, it also marks the royalty of Jesus from the monarchy of David that survived the destruction of Israel and Judah.

We even see Jesus extending his legacy by commissioning his disciples to carry on His works and spread them to all nations.

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”
– Matthew 28:18-20

One way that teens can join in the legacy is through discipleship. This is a relationship that contains friendship as well as a very in-depth Bible study, but moves beyond that to living life together. Discipleship is more than just reading the Bible, it is about how the discipler shares his faith at Walmart or tips the Coldstone employee. It's about sharing a passion for community service or the need to let others know about the saving grace of the Gospel. In that time, something more happens than just learning about the Bible, a legacy is born.

Wrap Up

We want to encourage you to consider joining a discipleship through Club Beyond. We have several volunteers that would love to meet with you and begin this amazing journey of living life together and getting to know Jesus more.

We also want to make some announcements Thank you for coming and I hope to see you back here next week!

³¹ “Taylor Swift's Advice For Teens: ‘Live Like You're 80 Looking Back at Your Life’” | <http://www.popsugar.com/Taylor-Swift-Pictures-Quotes-2011-Teen-Choice-Awards-18638879>

Scripture

Matthew 1

Other Relevant Scriptures		
Deuteronomy 6:4-7	2 Kings 2:9-15	Matthew 7:15-20
Matthew 28:18-20	John 14:1-7	Hebrews 5:12


Questions

1. Rapid Fire Answers: When I say legacy, what is something you think of? What is it that made you think of them? What kind of a legacy do they have?
2. What does it mean to leave a legacy?
3. Can a teenager leave a legacy? Why or why not?
4. What kind of a legacy would you like to leave?
5. How should you start now? What steps can you take today? (Always think forward)
6. How does your faith fit in to this plan?
7. How might that responsibility help with your own spiritual growth?

Illustrations


1. Movie Clip – The Emperor’s Club
 “History Remember You?” | <http://www.wingclips.com/movie-clips/the-emperors-club/how-will-history-remember-you>

Professor Hundert talks with his class about the great leaders of history and how their legacies lasted through the generations.

 NOTE: This illustration is a great one to use sometime in the middle of the hour to make a transition from the ice breaker questions to a deeper discussion.

2. Game – Hola Hoop Pass


Get all your participants in a circle holding each other's hands. Get someone to 'unlock' one of their hands from the circle, put a hula-hoop onto his/her hand, then reconnect with the circle. The aim of this game is to get the hula-hoop around the circle and back to where it started without the group letting go of each other's hands. After having the whole group do it, break them up into even groups to race against each other.


 NOTE: This is a great icebreaker game to encourage participation for students who might not otherwise want to talk. It is extremely low risk and promotes simple conversations.

3. Game – Egg Relay

Divide the team up into even teams and have them stand in a straight line. Setup cones in front that are about twenty feet away. Give each team an egg and a plastic spoon. The objective is to have the first person carry the spoon in their hand with the egg on it go down to the cone, around it, and back to the team. They then hand it off to the next person until everyone has gone. (Note: You probably want to have two or three times as many eggs as teams in case they drop them.)

Any extra eggs you have, ask for who thinks they can do this fastest. (This should be the last game you play outside.)

 NOTE: This is a great icebreaker game to encourage participation for students who might not otherwise want to talk. It is extremely low risk and promotes simple conversations.

 Photo Op: This is a great illustration to take pictures with the potential for some very fun and candid shots.

week28

FAREWELL DAY

Teaching

Some people say that outside of early adolescence, they experienced more major changes between the ages of 18 and 25 than at any other point in life. You'll be getting your first job, a college degree, stronger friendships, new opportunities, and maybe even a spouse. You'll be developing habits and patterns that will shape the rest of your life financially, emotionally, spiritually, and personally. Life after high school means two things for most people: more freedom and less accountability. This combination can lead to devastating decisions whose consequences can be felt for a lifetime. God's grace will cover any sinful decision, but this isn't an excuse for making poor choices!

We face this decision every day: Will we listen to the advice from people we consider friends? The Bible has some great truths that can help us through this process. One of the most exciting aspects of life after high school is greater freedom in how you choose your friends. Most of your friends now—good ones and bad ones—have probably been your friends for years. It's possible you've known them your entire life. Proximity was often the biggest reason you became friends. That isn't always true as you get older. Your best friends might not be your co-workers or classmates or neighbors. To put it simply, you'll have more options on finding friends. That's why we need to make it a priority to have good, quality friends.

One of the biggest concerns right now is that Christian teens go off to college and abandon their faith. Did the Church do enough to equip them for life outside of high school? Did they get enough from youth workers and parents to become the next Church leaders? Barna Group wrote a great article in 2011 about teens and their faith after high school.

Only 38% of youth pastors and 36% of senior pastors say they frequently discuss college plans with their students. The research among youth workers showed that conversations with students about college occur most frequently in churches with an ample number of adult assistants in the youth ministry, where there is a clear strategy for student ministry in the church, and in those churches that work effectively with teen leaders.³²

With this in mind, we should be asking good questions about what they are thinking after school and listening (note, I did not say giving advice, that is the role of the parents!). We should be looking to keep up the relationships with them even after they leave the youth group. And to discuss what is going to happen and offer to be there for these seniors in front of the rest of the group can push deeper relationships with the whole group!

Dennis Beckner, a volunteer youth worker at Saddleback Church did offer some great parting words that all youth workers should consider giving to seniors before they leave:

1. *Don't push you parents out the door too quickly when you get there. You'll want them to leave as soon as all of your stuff is in your dorm room. However, let them stay as long as they need to. This will be a hard day for them. Let them drag it out a little.*
2. *You're scared now, but you're going to have the time of your life. It's like summer camp and school combined for 4 years. Enjoy it. Make the most of it.*
3. *I'll come visit you in a month. You need time to create your own world there. When I get there, I'll be anxious for you to show me your new life.³³*

³² What Teens Aspire to Do in Life, How Churches Can Help | <http://www.barna.org/teens-next-gen-articles/492-what-teens-aspire-to-do-in-life-how-churches-can-help>

³³ What The Student Heading To College Needs To Hear | <http://www.volunteeryouthministry.com/2011/08/17/advice-for-the-student-heading-to-college/>

Scripture

1 Timothy 4:4-16

For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer. If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, nourished on the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives' tales; rather, train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance. That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all people, and especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things. 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. Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching. Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through prophecy when the body of elders laid their hands on you. Be diligent in these matters; give yourself wholly to them, so that everyone may see your progress. Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

Other Relevant Scriptures		
Numbers 6:24-26	Proverbs 1:20-33	Proverbs 16:16
Jeremiah 29:11	2 Corinthians 9:8	Colossians 1:10

Questions

1. Rapid Fire Answers: When you were in first grade, what did you want to be when you grew up? What was the best part about this year overall? What was the best part of Wednesday Night Live?
2. What is going to be the hardest part about the next step in your life?
3. Without naming the person, talk about a time you received unwise advice from a friend and decided to follow it. What were the consequences, and what did you learn from the experience?
4. Identify three characteristics that you appreciate most about your closest friends. Why do you value these characteristics so much?
5. Where might you search or spend time to discover potentially good friends in the next year or two?
6. How is your faith going to be challenged after you leave?
7. What can you do to remain faithful to God? What can we do for you to help?

Illustrations

1. Movie Clip - Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade
 "Picking the Holy Grail" | *No Preview Available*

Indiana Jones is forced into the room with the Holy Grail. After the knight describes the final challenge, Else chooses a cup for Donovan, which is wrong and has devastating consequences. Indy then chooses the correct cup.

📌 NOTE: This illustration is a great one to use sometime in the middle of the hour to make a transition from the ice breaker questions to a deeper discussion.

2. Illustration – Skit Guys
 "Graduation: Your Story" | <http://skitguys.com/videos/item/graduation-your-story>

Graduation is one of those milestones at which you stand on the edge of life and leap into the unknown. It's thrilling, but when all is said and done what will your legacy be?

📌 NOTE: This illustration is a great one to use sometime in the middle of the hour to make a transition from the ice breaker questions to a deeper discussion.

3. Fun – Celebration

Have a bunch of photos of students, a guestbook, and maybe even snacks. Treat the last club as a graduation party, but for the whole youth group. Share lots of memories and hopes for the future. Bring graduation hats for the seniors and take group and pairs of pictures.

📌 NOTE: This is a great icebreaker to encourage participation for students who might not otherwise want to talk. It is extremely low risk and promotes simple conversations.

📷 Photo Op: This is a great illustration to take pictures with the potential for some very fun and candid shots.