

Dear Parents,

As you know, our event is just around the corner. I wanted to take a moment to fill you in on our theme for this year and also to ask you to begin to pray for us as we head into this meaningful time in the life of our youth ministry.

Consider the teenagers in our ministry. At some point in their lives, many, if not most of them, have become a Christ-follower. At some point, they knew they were sinners separated from God. They learned that Jesus paid the once-and-for-all price for their sins, making peace between God and them. And in faith, they accepted His sacrifice on their behalf. At some point, this was experienced by many of our students. And it was amazing.

The problem is that, for many teenagers, their stories don't go much further than this. But this doesn't have to be the case.

The study we're going to be working through is called NEXT: Growing A Faith That Lasts. This study will help our teenagers begin to lay the foundation of a faith that will last long into their adult life.

Through our study of NEXT, your teenager will:

- Understand why it's so important to own their faith
- Learn to think differently about their purpose and their influence
- Learn how to practice the spiritual habits necessary to grow a next-level faith
- You'll soon receive a follow-up from me that will equip you with two key pieces of content: 1. A guide to inform you of the topics we'll be covering in our small group sessions
 - 2. Some questions for you to utilize in following-up with your child, reinforcing what he or she will have studied

Studies show that you are the most influential force in your child's life as it pertains to shaping his or her spiritual identity. My goal in these updates is to equip you to help continue and build on the process we will have started during our event.

Please be praying for our ministry, your child, and your child's friends as we challenge them with this relevant, timely message from the Bible.