

Also Inside: Middle School DNow Highlight Parent Newsletter Survey Serve and Worship this Easter

Wednesday Thrive

Wednesday Activities 6:30PM - 7:45PM (Open Gym will be at 6:00PM) U

Disciple Now



Meet in the Link at 9:30AM before breaking into classes for each grade/gender.

APRIL 2022

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ARTICLES

<u>8 Questions Every Parent Should Ask</u> <u>Themselves (Angie Tolpin)</u>

<u>An Introduction to the Spiritual</u> <u>Disciplines (Art of Manliness)</u>

Four Biblical Expectations You Should Have for Your Kids (Lifeway)

<u>How to Set Reachable Expectations for</u> <u>Your Teen (Outward Bound)</u>

<u>Managing Expectations When</u> <u>Parenting an Adolescent (Psychology</u> <u>Today)</u>

What Does God Require of Parents (Christ Life Resources)

<u>Christian Parenting Advice for Raising</u> <u>Teenagers (What Christians Want to</u> <u>Know)</u>

BOOKS

<u>The Freedom of Self-Forgetfulness:</u> <u>The Path to True Christian Joy by Tim</u> <u>Keller</u>

<u>Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian</u> <u>Life by Donald S. Whitney</u>

<u>Celebration of Discipline: The Path to</u> <u>Spiritual Growth by Richard Foster</u>

Need links? Check your email for the digital version of this newsletter.

Time to Audit Your Parenting

When you go to buy a planner, you have two choices: Calendar or Academic Year. That's because when you have children in school, life really revolves around those scholarly begin/end dates.

As we near the end of another parenting year, it's a good time to perform an audit. Companies do audits at the end of their fiscal years to make changes that ensure the next year is as smooth and profitable as possible.

While you aren't going to be making any big bucks off your teen, you want the next year to reap the big reward of them maturing into an amazing, Godly adult. Now is the time to take a look and see what could change about your parenting to bring that about.

Before you examine the following areas, take a moment and pray for an open and humble heart. Even though we're all aware there are times we don't know what we're doing as a parent, it can be difficult to admit when something needs to change.

Area 1: Your own spiritual walk

If your relationship with God isn't in order, nothing else will fall into place either, so this is a great place to begin. A few questions to consider:

Am I spending time with God regularly?
 Do I consider God's teachings when

making decisions? - Are God's ways more important to me than

- Are Goa's ways more important to me than the world's?

- Is gathering with and learning from other believers a priority for me?

Area 2: Your view of your student

Any parent will tell you that the days crawl but the years fly. Because of that it can be difficult to realize when your child stopped needing you to tie their shoelaces. Here are a few questions to consider:

Am I teaching my child about the things they encounter outside of my home?
Are my child's responsibilities age appropriate?

- Is there a way for my child to pursue their own interests and ideas?

- Do I know what mental and physical developments my child is facing now?

Area 3: Your expectations

Disappointment occurs when expectations aren't met. The easiest way to avoid that crushing emotion is to make sure your expectations of yourself and your student are appropriate.

It's important to note here that we aren't always consciously aware of our expectations. Take time to examine what you may be subconsciously expecting as well. Some ideas to consider:

- Do I acknowledge that I am a human that requires rest, makes mistakes, and has both good and bad days?

- Am I pushing my child toward activities/interests I had as a teen? - Have I asked my child what they expect of themselves and of me as a parent?

- Do I believe my worth as a parent is tied to the achievements of my child?

- Is my child explicitly aware of my expectations? Do they think I expect them to be perfect or the best at what they do?

Serving together as a family can be one of the most rewarding and memorable times.

This Easter is a great opportunity to do so. With two identical services at 9 and 11 you have the unique opportunity to worship and serve on the same day.

Simple choose a service to attend and then volunteer to serve during the other. What better way to honor our risen Savior?



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Instagram: @thrive_students Web: eagleslanding.org/students/ (This account is private. Please message us when requesting access so that we know you are a student or parent.)

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Apcoming Events Apr 16 - Egg Hunt - contact Neal to serve

Apr 17 - Easter Services 9 and 11 Attend one, serve one

Apr 24 - Southern Belle Farms

Jun 14-17 - Camp 323 - Sign up to serve

June 24-27 - Thrive Camp

We want this newsletter to work for you!

We work hard to make this newsletter a valuable resource for you as a parent. Our hope is to help you grow as a parent, connect with the happenings of our student ministry, and stay informed of what is happening.

Every effort can always be made better, though! Please take the survey at the link below to let us know how we can make this newsletter even more useful for you. It's short and anonymous, asking which parts you find useful and what topics you would like to see covered in the future.

> Take the survey here! Available until Apr 24

Link is also available through our Instagram link.