



Dear Parents of Students,

It's a privilege to lead our Student Ministry here at GT Church. If your teenagers have attended Real Life in the past, thank you for giving us the opportunity to help your students grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. It's an honor to partner with you!

For some time now, God has been stirring within our Student Ministry Team the questions of "What If?" ***What if we could provide better opportunities for middle and high school students to learn about and interact with God at a more developmentally appropriate level?*** What if we could give each of them their own space to experience life change?

These questions have stirred as a result of the ongoing tensions we face in Student Ministries of navigating the developmental differences between a middle and high school student. How do you teach about topics such as dating, or even your future, to an 11-year-old 6th grader and an 18-year-old senior, in the same environment and using the same language? It's a challenge!

Because of this, **GT Student Ministries will be launching separate services beginning on Sunday, September 16th, the weekend after Road Trip;** a service for middle school students (grades 6-8) and a service for high school students (grades 9-12).

Our **Middle School Ministry** (grades 6-8) will offer two services **every Sunday morning at 9AM & 11AM** during both of the adult services.

Our **High School Ministry** (grades 9-12) will meet **Sunday evenings from 6PM-8PM at the West Lawn Campus**. During Sunday mornings, we would love to see our high school students get involved in volunteering because we believe that when a teenager serves in a role that is right for them, it can be a significant catalyst for spiritual growth and the glue that keeps them connected to the body of Christ after high school. From Kids Ministry to the Worship Center, there are numerous places all around our campus where students can serve. If a high school student chooses not to serve on a Sunday morning, we will encourage them to attend the main worship service.

Both middle school and high school programs will kick off with modern, high-energy live worship music. We want to make church a place where students can be themselves and invite their friends.

The message will be taught by one of our student ministries pastors, applying the timeless truths of the Bible to the everyday life of a teenager at a middle and high school appropriate level.

Small group time is when students are broken into groups based on gender and grades. Small groups are a great way for our students to grow in their faith by learning how to apply the message to their lives, meet other people their age and form meaningful relationships with their peers and adult mentors!

Wednesday nights will continue the same seasonal programming that offers middle school and high school students discipleship opportunities to grow deeper in their faith.

On Sunday, July 29 we invite you to connect with us at a Parent Coffee Talk at either 10:30 am or 12:30 pm in Room 113 by the Next Gen Center to give you more perspective and answer any questions you may have about these exciting updates! Between now and then, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Nagle'.

Pastor Scott Nagle

GT Student Ministries Pastor

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