

Oak Forest Youth Ministries are on a temporary hiatus.

Middle/High School Life Group, Youth Group, and Youth/Young Adult Open Gym Basketball are on hold as of right now.

Until we are able to resume to our normal schedule, we will be sending out our updates lessons, & more resources each week to help us stay connected.

Week #2

Middle School/ High School Life Group

[Attached \(Click Here\)](#) is the discussion worksheet for the Middle/High School Life Group from “Talksheets: 50 Creative Discussions for Youth” for 3/25. This week’s lesson is called “**Holding It Together**” about exploring how Jesus holds our lives together.

- Each student can do the worksheet on their own and then you can discuss afterwards with the attached “Leader’s Guide”.
- Worksheets are very user friendly and are flexible and will easily adapt easily to being used by individuals at home.
- Each Leader’s Guide includes step by step instructions, more information about the topic and questions to ask to help promote discussion. Also, each “Leader’s Guide” document includes additional activities & ideas to engage your child more in the topic.
- *Please note the first activity/question about building can be done as a competition in small groups of 2 within your family or 1 v 1 or as a solo activity and you can just build with different materials to see how tall you can make your structure.*
- You will need a Bible to look up verses for each lesson, if you need a Bible let me know or you can use <https://www.biblegateway.com/> or a Bible app on your devices.
- **This week’s scripture is *Colossians 1:15-17*.**
“Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation,¹⁶ for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can’t see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him.¹⁷ **He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together.**”
- With the lesson, listen to "Raise a Hallelujah"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2XtRuPfaAU>
- This is a very timely lesson about how even when your life seems to be falling apart, God holds everything together and can give us strength and courage to move forward. This would be a great lesson for a family to do together!

Youth Group

Our lesson will be from Session 17 of the “The Story: Student & Teen Curriculum” and is called “The Kingdom’s Fall”.

- To recap, we have been making our way through the story of the Bible each week and evaluating each week how the stories within the Bible is really part of one continuing story of God & his love for His people.
- We are now up to King Manasseh and the fall of the Kingdom of Israel. Also in this lesson, God uses his prophets, Ezekiel (to warn) & Jeremiah (to give hope)
- As you watch each video pay attention to the history it teaches, remember to look for the ways that this portion of “The Story” can apply to our lives today.
- **Watch This Video:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A5mZtk9Ib2E>
- **Questions After The Video:**
 - Why do you think this destruction and disaster came upon the Israelites?
 - How do you think power can corrupt people?
 - What negative effects of rebellion have you seen in your life?
 - In the lives of those close to you?
 - Can you relate to Jeremiah as the “weeping prophet” who felt deeply the burden of God’s people’s sin?
 - What sin or struggles in the world do you feel burdened by today?
 - What do you think God’s prophets would say to his followers today?
 - How can God’s promise of restoration for his people still give us **hope**?
- This may seem like a lesson about the sad Fall of a Kingdom, but it’s really a story of HOPE based of God’s unfailing love for his people. As you watch this lesson don’t focus on the justice and discipline that the people had earned, but the underserved promise of restoration God gave through his prophet Jeremiah because of His unconditional love for His people.
- **Session 17 Student worksheet [attached \(click here\)](#)**
- ****KEY VERSE= Lamentations 3:21-23 ²¹Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: ²²Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. ²³They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.****
- This week’s story is found in 2 Kings 21; 23–25; 2 Chronicles 33; 36; Jeremiah 1–2; 4–5; 13; 21; Lamentations 1–3; 5; Ezekiel 1–2; 6–7; 36–37. *You will need a Bible to look up verses for each lesson, if you need a Bible let me know or you can use <https://www.biblegateway.com/> or a Bible app on your devices.*
- A more detailed breakdown & evaluation of “The Story” Session 17 can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=krozf-k9yBo>
- Also remember each week, that each Bible story and the over-arching theme of the Bible is really about God’s overwhelming, unfailing love for all of us.

If you need any help with the above materials and resources, please let us know and we will be happy to help.

<https://www.facebook.com/OakForestYouth/>