

Sunday mornings: 9:00 am – 10:00 am at EPCOC  
Sunday nights: Begin at 6:00 pm – meet at EPCOC  
Wednesday nights: 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm at EPCOC

**XP: God Loves You. Love God. Love People. Be transformed.**

Each month we will study a particular topic or book of the Bible. This will be taught on Sunday mornings in highly interactive and creative class times. Each topic will hit on one of the four statements above. We believe that when we come back to an idea over and over again, our students will make that a part of them as they leave our youth ministry. Each topic above will be covered at least twice in any given year. To help make our teaching applicable to real life the students will also be discussing each lesson in their community groups and will be given an “XP” or experience that connects the teaching to their world. Parents also play a part in our teaching. Each month they will receive an e-mail outlining what we are learning each week along with questions to ask their student. They will also be given a “Home XP” that will focus on parents connecting with their students better.

**Wednesday Night Community.**

Each person on our youth group roster has been put into a community group. Community groups are groups of students whose job is to do life together (1 Thess. 2:8). Each Wednesday, beginning at 7:00 pm we will have a brief review of our Sunday morning lesson (to remind students who were there and so students who missed are not left out) and then divide into our community groups. In these groups, we will talk about why that weeks lesson matters in real life as well as create opportunities for our students to create meaningful relationships with each other and an adult mentor. Community groups ensure that each student has a place where they are cared for and loved. WNC begins 9/10 but we will have an introduction to community groups and leaders on 9/3.

**Life Hurts. God Heals.**

This is a new, trial program for high school students. Teenagers often have a lot on their plate and it can be overwhelming. Sometimes pain can be anything from dealing with difficult relationships to family problems, to addiction or even self-harming. This is a night for any of those. It is an eight step program learning to lean on God to get through difficult times. These will take place Tuesday nights at 7:30 pm at EPCOC.

**Middle School Mania.**

One Sunday night a month we will have a Sunday night dedicated to our middle school. We will simply use this time to just hang out – go bowling, play Wii, whatever. It will be a good night for our Middle school students to be reminded they are an extremely important part of our group!!

**Mission 418**

In Luke 4:16-20 Jesus read his “mission statement” to a synagogue in Galilee. Verse 18 defines his mission as bringing good news to the poor, freedom for the prisoner, sight to the blind and releasing the oppressed. As the hands and feet of Jesus in this world, this is our mission statement as well. During these times we will be going away from the church building and go BE the church. Our goal is to do things that not only bless the oppressed and marginalized in a physical way but in a relational way as well. Community groups will be responsible for coming up with ideas for how we spend our time here. We want our kids to be involved in places that God has placed on their hearts.

**C.R.E.A.T.E**

Too often we have limited worship to singing, praying and talking. Worship and expressing ourselves comes in many different forms. This will be a time for our kids to simply express themselves as the creative people that God has made them to be. They will have the opportunity to draw, paint, pray, read, meditate, photograph, write music, stories, poems, journal, sculpt or any other creative expression they choose to worship God and bless others through that expression. (This is a mini-version of our Worship XP in August.)