

THE CONNECTION

FALL 2022

Today's Teens: Servant Leaders





CONVENTION  JULY 3-8, 2023

YMCA OF THE ROCKIES, ESTES PARK, CO



FLY 2023

RESTORED

REV. 21:5-7



EVENING SPEAKERS

ALEX
AMIOT

MICAH
HJERMSTAD

PHILL
HOOPER

ADAM
OSIER

RYAN
PATENAUDE

BIBLE STUDY LEADER

ERIC
RASMUSSEN



Today's Teens: Servant Leaders

Two items that caught my attention during September bring me to direct our attention to teens (you!) as servant leaders for Jesus and His Kingdom.

First, a teen was telling another teen within my earshot that FLY Beyond was "absolutely amazing" this last summer. When asked by the second teen why that was the case, the first teen explained that it focused on their spiritual gifts and how they can be leaders within their congregation.

Second, an article on "How Old Were Jesus' Disciples?" refreshed my thoughts on this topic. Maybe you have already thought this one through, but the article concludes that the twelve disciples were likely between 13 and 30 when individually called by Jesus to him.

What does this mean? If you are a teen who knows Jesus by grace through faith, then you are a servant leader.

What do we do with this info?

Peter was one of those twelve disciples. When the Holy Spirit inspired him to record the letter that we know as First Peter, he reminded believers that our focus is on Him:

"He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls."

~ 1 Peter 2:24-25

Understanding the Gospel motivates our lives of faith. Seeing Jesus' sacrifice for us is the place to begin. Remembering our lostness without Him and His soul-care in bringing us to Him is powerful.

Next, we follow our Savior King with an awareness that leading is serving, and serving will have hardship. Contrary to the world's affirmations of "happiness" at all costs, Jesus points to a servanthood that includes suffering. But it is hardship that is worth it, because He himself is worth it and the impact on others in His name is also worth it.

"For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in His steps." ~ 1 Peter 2:21

How is the Lord calling you to follow in His steps?

Pastor Jason Holt
Director of Youth Ministries





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"The Goodness" by TobyMac featuring Blessing Offor

Veteran Christian music contributor TobyMac teamed up with Blessing Offor (best known from NBC's The Voice) for this upbeat celebration of the Lord Jesus.

*Through the good and the bad
and the ugly (whoa)*

*I can still feel the sunshine above me (say it Blessing)
Lord, I love all the ways that You love me (yeah)
You're the good (yeah) You're the good (yeah) You're
the goodness*

TobyMac lost his son Truett in 2019. Blessing was born with blindness in one eye and lost vision in the other at 10 years-old. Both men have seen hardship and God's faithfulness through it.

This song is a triumphant, while weathered, view of our God's character: his compassion, his consistency, and his goodness.

What Scriptures come to mind when you see those three areas?

Bonus: [The 5-minute interview with the young woman behind the painting in the video.](#)

Media Minute engages with today's youth culture by reviewing different messages within it and moving to God's Word to discern what to do with it. This column sometimes features sacred and other times secular media. It will grab a message or a line from a particular media piece and seek to begin the conversation on it, in order to drive us all back to Scripture.

AFLC Youth Ministries exists

- to Win teenagers to Christ through the Gospel
- to Build them up in God's truth and God's love
- to Equip them to live their faith and share their faith with others, which results in the multiplying of maturing teen disciples of Jesus



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