BOTS 23 * -



HIDDLE SCHOOL BODTSSCHOOL 2023 RECAP

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358 **Middle School Students**





Small Group Leaders



Support Volunteers

Elyse Johnson 8th Grade at Argyle

I believed in God to a certain degree and have been to Elevate a few times. Whenever I went to Elevate, I felt like a weight was lifted off my shoulders. I wanted to go to camp to mend my relationship with Jesus. I have been feeling pressure to get into a relationship and was fighting the thoughts of feeling unworthy. My relationship with the Lord was on and off, and I felt like I didn't know if I believed in God. In session, when I heard "your God is forgiving," I just wanted to be forgiven by God. And now I know who I am in the Lord, and I have recommitted my life to Him.

I came into BOTS seeking after the Lord. After hearing Pastor Ryan speak at FCA, I knew I would encounter God during the weekend. All I wanted was to begin a relationship with the Lord. At the first session, I decided that I was going to give my life to Christ.

> Chase Watkins 8th Grade at Keller



Hunter Confer 8th Grade at Tidwell

I grew up in an unhealthy home, and God wasn't a priority in my life. When I moved here, I didn't have a connection with the Lord. I went to Elevate a few times but never felt connected to God. A friend invited me to BOTS, and I decided to come because of the tribe games. The first night, I felt a pull to God after hearing, "you have to surrender your way to follow God's way." I thought it was just a prayer that would saves you, but after the session, I realized it was surrendering everything, and that is when I decided to give my life to Him.

I knew that God could do unimaginable things, but I didn't think I would encounter one of those moments. During the girl's session, I felt this overwhelming gratefulness, peace, and joy when I went down a line full of leaders while they told me that I was seen, loved, and a daughter of Christ. I knew that these were the emotions that the Lord wanted me to feel because that's what He feels, and I know that this is a feeling that I can continue to have with Jesus.

Kayla Garcia 8th Grade at Medlin



Eva Kosla 7th Grade at Indian Springs

I came into camp thinking about all the negative things that people would say about me. They would say, "Why do you look like this? Why don't you fix how you look?" Coming into camp I wanted to see who the Lord says I am. I learned that I am a beautiful daughter that is loved and seen and I decided that my identity is in the Lord, and I am going to lean into that.

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Ethan Fernandez 8th Grade at Argyle

My father passed at a young age, so I never had a father to tell me he was proud of me or loved me. During the guy's session, when all the leaders said they were proud of me and loved me, it hit me hard. I couldn't stop crying because even though my dad isn't with me physically, he is still here, and I still have other friends and father figures that love and care for me. And I know that God is my **Heavenly Father!**

I have committed my life to Jesus before, but it never felt real. During session one, I felt the Lord reaching out to me, and I wanted to recommit my life to Jesus. This time, it felt real. I wanted to lean on Him, so I decided that this moment would be my recommitment to Jesus and that my real relationship with Him would start.

> William "Dane" Hart 8th Grade at Keller

Growing up, I had my dad in my life, but he was also my coach, and I never heard him tell me he was proud of me. During the guy's session, not only did the leaders say, "I'm proud of you, son," some of them spoke about the things I was struggling with in my life. Nobody knew the things I was struggling with because I didn't tell anyone, but at that moment, I felt like the Lord was sending me people to tell me that He sees me and He loves me.

Micah De Leon 8th Grade at Argyle

This year at BOTS, we focused on the book of Proverbs and pursuing God's Wisdom in all areas of sexuality and relationships.

In session 1, we looked at Proverbs 2 and talked about the value of pursuing Godly wisdom, how God has our best interests in mind, and how important it is to surrender fully to God's way.

In session 2, we looked at Proverbs 31 and talked about the picture from God's Word of a wise & Godly man, and a wise & Godly woman. This gives us a vision of what to live up to & what to look for.

In session 3 (guys & girls split sessions), we talked about the heart - the value of guarding our heart (Proverbs 4:23) and ultimately giving God our heart (Proverbs 23:26).

In session 4, we looked at Proverbs 5 and talked about receiving freedom & healing from lust & sexual sin. We emphasized Proverbs 5:21, which gives us the reason for avoiding sexual sin: our ways are in full view of the Lord. The only long term motivator to running from sin is a deep love for God and a desire to please and honor Him.







SESSIONS



THIS WEEKEND, THE STUDENTS HAD SUCH AN OPENNESS TO RECEIVE FROM GOD. THERE WAS A CLEAR HUNGER FOR THE LORD AS THESE STUDENTS LEANED INTO THE SESSIONS. THERE WAS A BIG RESPONSE TO STUDENTS RECEIVING MINISTRY IN THE AREA OF IDENTITY. BY THE END OF THE WEEKEND, MANY STUDENTS FOUND A NEWFOUND IDENTITY IN JESUS.

AT THE END OF THE WEEKEND, AS A CAMP, WE HAD A PRAISE PARTY TO CELEBRATE THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES TO CHRIST, AND THERE WERE DOZENS OF STUDENTS SHARING WHY THEY SURRENDERED THEIR LIFE TO CHRIST. THEY SHARED THE MARKING MOMENT WHEN THEIR LIVES CHANGED FOREVER.



DEVOTIONAL PLANCE

We have a resource to help your student coming out of BOTS: a 7 day devotional on the YouVersion Bible app that the Elevate team created called "Proverbs & Purity". Each day has content that correlates with what we talked about during the BOTS weekend. Students are encouraged to go through this together with their small group from BOTS to stay engaged both spiritually & relationally.

This is a great thing for your student to prioritize as they are now home from this great weekend!



PROVERBS & PURITY







DAILY DEVOTIONALS WITH VIDEO, **BIG TAKEAWAYS, AND** SCRIPTURES TO READ







DO THIS DEVOTIONAL WITH YOUR SMALL GROUP!

of his faithful

How do you want to read this Plan?

By Myself

Keep your Plan activity private, or allow

invite Friends to join you in this Plan. You'll complete days together at the same pace, and you'll all be able to discuss what God is teaching you all the way.

for investing in the next generation

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