The Plan

Woolsey Baptist Church
Student Ministry
What is “The Plan”?

Think back to when you were a child, you had dreams of what you wanted to be. Some of you may have wanted to be a doctor, while others wanted to play baseball professionally; while still others may have wanted to be President of the United States. Regardless of the specific profession, most of us can probably admit we dreamed about being something when we were young. Most likely, a lot of those dreams fell by the wayside through the years. Though, for some of us, our dreams have come true. How, though, did they come true?

Did we simply wake up one day and become what we dreamed about? No, rather hard work and a plan was required. Whether that meant a plan to work harder at an athletic skill or a plan to guide you through college and beyond; a plan was required! This may not have been a 150 point plan that you have in a folder somewhere, it may have simply been an “internal” plan that you laid out. Though, the point is, there was a plan.

It is our belief here at WBC that the notion of a “plan” is applicable here as well. God has called us to himself by Jesus Christ. He has not left it simply at that, however. He has called us to a life on mission for Him. This mission requires a plan. We cannot simply be swayed by the wind here and there; but rather we have been called to a singular focus of glorifying Him. This is not to say that we need a huge complicated plan, but rather it is to say that we need to know where we are going and how we are getting there. Thus, the idea of a “plan” for our students has come about. This is not a catch-all plan, or a perfect plan. This plan is the imperfect product of imperfect, sinful people. It has holes and short-comings; but we believe that this plan can be a catalyst to equipping our students for this world. This plan is subservient to God’s will; if he leads counter to this plan then we must follow regardless. (Proverbs 19:21)
This plan exists for you, students, and your parents to give you an idea of where we are going while you are involved in the student ministry. In looking at this plan you will see how we approach student ministry, what your expected involvement will be, and ultimately where we hope and pray you are by the time you graduate high school.

We invite you and your family to be a part of this ministry and WBC.

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*Note- We cannot stress enough that the following information is secondary to a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. That is our primary motive as a ministry and as a church. We must know him personally otherwise all of the following information and guidelines are useless. Jesus Christ is the focus and goal of this student ministry. What follows is simply a way to equip followers of Jesus Christ!

We, the student ministry team, get 6 solid years with the students (7th-12th). It is critical that we focus these 6 years on Christ and on how to know him better. If our focus is anywhere else, then we have failed before we have started. With that being said...

Where should the student be in 6 years?

5 Benchmarks:

• Committed to the body of Christ (Hebrews 10:23-25)
  o Covenanting with a local body of believers
  o Serving a local body of believers
  o Praying for other believers and the world around them.
• Biblically literate (Psalm 19:7-14, 2 Timothy 3:16-17)
  o Able to handle and discern Scripture well
    ▪ I.e. able to read, understand, and teach a passage
  o Memorization and Application of verses
  o How to defend the faith
• Mission focused (Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1:8)
  o Living life with intentionality for Christ
  o Focused on accomplishing the Great Commission
• Disciple Making (1 Corinthians 11:1, 2 Timothy 2:2)
  o Focused on reproducing yourself in a Christ-like manner
  o Teaching Biblical principles and truths in a productive way
• Culturally adaptable (Acts 17:22-34)
  o Able to thrive in situations that may not be “like home”
  o Able to share the Gospel effectively in different scenarios/languages/cultures
How do we get there?

3 focuses

1. Teaching effectively (Ephesians 4:1-3)
   a. Scripture focused/based lessons that pertain to life today
      i. Connecting the “past” with the “present” while still maintaining the Biblical intent and author’s purpose
   b. Living what we teach
      i. A life that does not match up with the teaching being given, vastly undercuts the effectiveness of the teacher.

2. Life-On-Life (2 Timothy 1:3-7, 2:1)
   a. It is simply not enough to teach, but rather it is essential for us to model and encourage students to live this lifestyle.
   b. Fellowshipping
      i. It is imperative that we as a student ministry provide opportunities for the students to gather to, and to scatter out of. This promotes cohesiveness within the group, as well as a base of support. These opportunities stretch well beyond just “youth” functions, rather all students are encouraged to attend as many church-wide functions as possible.

3. Providing opportunities (Titus 1:4-5)
   a. Students cannot fully understand or apply something; without having the opportunity to take ownership of it.
      i. Students will have various opportunities from teaching, to discipling, to participating in missions, and many other opportunities as well.
Nuts and Bolts

How specifically does this look?

1. Middle School Age (7th-8th)
   a. Involvement- Students are expected to learn (and apply) what it is to be an integral, active part of the local church (WBC) and to regularly attend WBC Student Ministry functions.
   b. Teaching- Primarily Leader led; but with some student involvement.
      i. Challenged with questions to answer throughout the week dealing with the passage.
   c. Discipleship- Leader led groups. Intentionally focused events that hone in on spiritual maturity and life application of biblical principles.
   d. Missions- Students are exposed to UPG’s (Un Reached People Groups) and missions needs around the world; along with Christ’s clear commandment to Missions.
   e. Community- Students are expected to take on a mentor; intentionally meeting with this mentor throughout the school year.
   f. Culturally- Students are exposed to different cultures and traditions from around the world and within their communities. They are taught how to engage and interact in a positive Christ honoring way.

2. High School (9th-10th)
   a. Involvement- Students are expected to be an integral, active part of WBC and to regularly attend WBC Student Ministry functions.
   b. Teaching- Still primarily leader led, but encouraging more student involvement. Students are encouraged to help prepare the lesson with the leader.
      i. Doing background work on the passage
ii. Helping to provide questions that go along with the passage.

c. Discipleship- Leader led groups/Students are encouraged to take initiative. Building off of that spiritual maturity and expanding the life application.

d. Missions- Students are further exposed to UPG’s and missions needs around the world; and are encouraged to participate in Christ’s clear commandment to Missions.

e. Community- Students are still expected to meet with a mentor; but to begin serving the church in other areas.

f. Culturally- Students are taught the essentials on how to thrive in a culture that is different from “their home.” The objective here is to overcome the “deer in headlights” look when a student is dropped inevitably in a new situation/culture.

3. High School ($11^{th}$ -$12^{th}$)

a. Involvement- Students are expected to look for opportunities to lead and serve at WBC and to regularly attend WBC Student Ministry functions.

b. Teaching- Leader helps prepare and teach, but students are now directly involved in each aspect.

c. Discipleship- Student led groups (Leaders still attend). Students model and make disciples of themselves within the group. Providing the model and way to apply this.

d. Missions- Students are expected to lead in teaching about UPG’s and missions needs around the world; and are expected to participate in Christ’s clear commandment to Missions.

e. Community- Students are expected to mentor younger ones and lead in certain areas of the church.

f. Culturally-Students are expected to seek out opportunities to lead others in teaching cultural awareness and sharing the Gospel in these situations.
Recommended Reading Pages (For Students and Parents)

*Forgotten God* by Francis Chan

*Gospel* by J.D. Greear

*Not a Fan* by Kyle Idleman

*Un Christian* by Gabe Lyons

*Don’t Waste Your Life* by John Piper

*Let the Nations Be Glad* by John Piper

*Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life* by Donald Whitney

*10 Who Change the World* by Daniel L. Akin

Recommended Reading (For Parents)

*Age of Opportunity* by Paul David Tripp
Summer Schedule

This is not an all-inclusive schedule! Other events will be scheduled and some dates possible to change. Please check the website and facebook for updates! And we’ll keep you up to date!

**Sundays** Small Group Bible Study at the Annex (9:30 am)

**Wednesdays** Bible Study and Games at the Annex (6:30 pm)

**Friday, May 31**

Summer Kick-Off For Students and Parents at the Annex (6:30 pm)

**Tuesday, June 4 and 25**

Middle School Activities at the Main Church (1-4 pm)

**Friday, June 7 and 28**

High School and College and Career Ultimate Frisbee (7 pm)

**Sunday, June 23 and 30**

Afterglow following the 6 pm service (6-9 pm)

**Monday-Wednesday, July 9-10**

Summer Late Nights (6-9 pm)

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