

Dear Parents of High School Students

I'm writing to let you know about an important study we are beginning with high school students at our Sunday night Face-Time meetings.

We will be using a resource titled Can I Ask That?, a Sticky Faith curriculum from the Fuller Youth Institute (fulleryouthinstitute.org), that is designed to lead teenagers in critical conversations about faith. This study will invite students to look at topics like evolution, the reliability of the Bible, and homosexuality. It raises hard questions that don't have easy answers, and helps students think about them from a biblical perspective.

I have a conviction that high schoolers should wrestle with challenging topics now, with adults who know them and care about them, rather than on their own later. Some research suggests that about 50 percent of youth group participants will leave their faith when they graduate from high school (see stickyfaith.org for more research and resources addressing this concern). We don't want young people to leave faith in Christ because we haven't had real conversations with them about topics that matter.

The studies are written to intentionally encourage students to consider many sides of these issues and help them begin to form their own opinions based on dialogue around scripture, different Christian and non-Christian perspectives, and the tradition of our church. If you are interested in a copy of the curriculum please let me know. I always welcome your questions and input.

Finally, would you please pray for this study? I believe it has the potential to lead to great breakthroughs for our young people. I'd be grateful if you ask God to breathe life into these discussions.

Thanks for allowing me to partner with you to grow and strengthen the spiritual lives of your children.

Blessings,
~ryan

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