

PALOS VERDES BAPTIST CHURCH

YOUTH MINISTRY

WORSHIP HIM COMPLETELY.
WALK WITH HIM CONSISTENTLY.
WITNESS FOR HIM COMPASSIONATELY.

JULY 2016 NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Events

July 1: Summer FNF @ 7:00 PM

July 8: Summer FNF @ 7:00 PM

July 15: Summer FNF @ 7:00 PM

July 17: Men's Cooking Fellowship @ 2:00 PM

July 22: Summer FNF @ 7:00 PM

July 23: Osaka Missions Team leaves for Japan

July 29: Summer FNF @ 7:00 PM

August 1: San Francisco Missions Team leaves



Celebrating Well...

// **This past June,** both Torrance and PV kids finished up school. It's really easy to move from one season to the next, without taking time to adequately celebrate what God did in the season before. Often, we do this because of busyness. I know some of you had homework assignments for summer school due as early as the Monday after the last week of regular school!



So, on **June 17**, we took time to celebrate both our grads (fifth, eighth, and twelfth grade), and everyone who finished up another year of school, at our **End-Of-School Party**. It was a great time to unwind and look back, not only on all God accomplished through you all in school, but, more importantly, how he grew you in your spiritual lives.

QUESTIONS? SUGGESTIONS?

Feel free to e-mail Ben at benfriedman@pvbc.com, call/text (310)-703-2065, or contact any one of our awesome Youth Advisors!



Worship Him completely



Walk with Him consistently



Witness for Him compassionately

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Over the course of the past month, we also finished our three-week series, **The Return of The King**, where we looked at Jesus' return and the incredible relevance it has for our lives now.

We also were excited to see 8 youth apply to serve on our **Servant Leadership Team (SLT)** for next year. If all are confirmed, and continue, please pray that they grow immensely in the year to come, and that their influence on our ministry would be great.

Servant Leadership Team is something we hope every youth will aspire to, by the time they finish their senior year of high school, and "graduate" out of our ministry.

Friday Night Fellowship will continue meeting at the normal time this summer, as we go through our **"You Were Wondering"** series, answering the questions you wrote in. This is a great time to bring a friend, because it will be a lower-key environment, and a great "first step" for those seeking to learn more about Jesus and the Christian faith.

Lastly, remember to mark your calendars for this year's **Family Retreat**, over the weekend of **September 3-5**, at Camp Tahquitz Pines, in Idyllwild, CA. Registrations forms just came out last week...we hope to see you there!



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **July 1-29: Fridays @ 7:00 PM: Summer FNF Series: "You Were Wondering":** Come, and bring friends for our Friday FNFs this summer! In a welcoming and safe environment to explore God, we will be answering the questions that you yourselves wrote in. If you still haven't gotten a chance to write in a question of your own, it's not too late—ask a youth advisor for a sheet to fill in this Friday!
 - **Pray for our two summer missions teams: OSAKA, JAPAN** team will be gone from July 23-August 10, and our **SAN FRANCISCO, CA** team will be gone from August 1-6. Many youth will be serving on mission trips for their first time. If this is something you are interested in, this is a great desire. Stay tuned for more mission trip opportunities in the coming years!
 - **SAVE-THE-DATE: Sat-Mon, September 3-5: PVBC Family Retreat:** Mark your calendars for this year's Family Retreat. You won't want to miss this time of fellowship, teaching, worship, and rest!
- Interested in serving with Sunday School in our Children's Ministry?** Contact Mrs. Akiyama for the best way to get connected with our children's ministry!

You Are What You Read...



tips for summer reading, which I hope you'll find helpful:

Getting Started:

-**Make smaller goals.** Better to try to read one book this summer, and end up reading two, than to be disappointed for failing to meet your goals.

-**Just do it!** You'll never get around to it later. Go to Amazon and order the book.

Choosing the Right Book:

-**Ask for recommendations.** Pastors and friends whose spiritual life you admire are great places to start.

-**Read Reviews.** There are lots of great book reviews online. Look at both the positive and the negative comments. Do people who like the book seem to like it for the same reasons, and do the people who dislike it, dislike it for the same reasons?

Sticking With It:

- **Read more often, and in smaller segments.** I think you'll be surprised at how much you can read in fifteen minutes (6 pages)? and amazed at your ability to remember what you read as well.

Warnings:

-**Make sure that reading a Christian book does not replace your daily Bible reading time.** If you're trying to start a daily devotional time, do that first!

-**Make sure it doesn't become a chore.** Don't read just for the sake of saying you did it...but also...

-**Don't give up too easily, either!** I have found that in almost any book I read, it takes me a few chapters to really get into it. If you don't like the book halfway through, don't feel obligated to finish—but try to make it through at least a quarter!

For those of you who are "readers"—what tips would you add?

We've probably all heard the saying, "you are what you eat." Thus, a babysitter of mine growing up used to tell me I was going to turn into a french fry. Whatever may be the merits of this supposed food-based transformation, one thing I do know to be true is this: "you are what you read", that is, the books you read—or don't read—can have a great impact on your spiritual life, either positively or negatively.

For those that are intimidated with the thought of reading a Christian book, or for those to whom it simply sounds boring, let me assure you: I used to be in your shoes. Before I became a Christian, I really didn't like reading. After I became a Christian, I was slowly turned on to the habit of reading, and have since grown to be an avid reader—perhaps even to a fault. If you ask Stephanie, she'll tell you that it's not unusual at all to catch me reading while doing any number of activities: brushing my teeth, waiting to get a haircut, waiting to use the shower, and even sometimes—and this is true (for which I will likely repent ten years from now)—while bottle-feeding Piper!

Summer is a great time for reading, if you make the time. One suggestion is to make a goal of reading *one book* this summer, all the way through, which will help you with your spiritual life. Already, I find myself wanting to write more about the many books that have influenced me throughout my Christian life, but I thought it may be more helpful to simply list out some practical

Prayer Points: How to be a "Persistent Widow" in July (Luke 18:1-8)

This July, please join us in prayer:

- 1) For God to plant great **spiritual hunger** in all of our youth and their **friends**.
- 2) For God to give wisdom and direction in **planning our 2016-2017 schedule**.
- 3) For God to bring **three new youth** to FNF this month.