

Dear Sojourn Parents,

Thanks for offering us the opportunity of working with your child(ren). We are super-excited about what to come and consider it an awesome responsibility to partner with you to advance the truth of Christ Jesus in the lives of students. Our desire is to create a safe, accepting environment (Gospel centered, graded, and safe) where middle and high school students enter into and develop their personal relationships with Jesus Christ. We will encourage and equip students to meet physical and spiritual needs of both Christians and non-believers, to build community among their peers, family and church-wider relationships. Our sole focus is Gospel transformation—seeking the cross of Christ and allowing it to infiltrate every area of life. The group of us (assembled so far) who will be working with your students have a passion for youth ministry—and have had previous experience doing such. It's our desire to cultivate the same character Paul encouraged in Timothy.

1 Timothy 4:12 "Do not let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity."

In Jesus' day, a rabbi would accept disciples at age 15, so it's likely that some of Christ's disciples—those to whom he entrusted himself and his Word; those in his closest circle—were teenagers. It's our hope to establish mentoring communities where students can develop into passionate seekers of Christ. We want to come alongside your child to help them develop their gifts to create a student-led/adult-led ministry. As with any ministry start-up, logistics will possibly change as we expand—but here's our plan from the start: We will meet each Wednesday night at the 930 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. We will gather together for some hang-out time (games, snacks, social time), worship in song and a short devotion, then split up into small groups. In typical Sojourn fashion, the small group will be the heart of what we do. That's where we believe trust is established, honest conversations happen and true discipleship takes place. The small group atmosphere would serve as a springboard to relationships and a sense of community—including prayer, accountability, care and teaching. This format will provide a safe backdrop for students to come as they are, be real, be honest and beloved. We will deal with their real life issues and seek to know what God's Word says about the things we encounter.

Age-specific questions will be written by one of the Sojourn pastors to serve as a catalyst for discussion. Groups will be divided by age and gender. We encourage you to get to know your child's community group leader. (Note: Anyone working with your child has completed a background check and been approved by Sojourn leadership) Each month we will have a student-focused service with teaching and worship during our regular meeting time. We plan on incorporating service opportunities, wild-n-zany (cheesy in spirit) youth activities and occasional fun trips/retreats.

We are looking forward to getting to know your student. Thanks for letting us partner with you to foster your child's spiritual growth.

Lachlan, Terri, Jeremy, Carrie

Colossians 1:28 "So we tell others about Christ, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all the wisdom God has given us. We want to present them to God, perfect in their relationship to Christ."

Contact information:

Highschool
Lachlan & Terri Coffey
1013 Caldwell St.
Louisville, KY 40204
(502) 432-1550

Middleschool
Jeremy & Carrie Quillo
2213 E. Oak St.
New Albany, IN 47150
(812) 941-0246 home
(502) 435-8209 cell