



# Knowing Christ,

# Becoming Like Him...

theParentLink

A Ministry of  
Bloomingdale Alliance Church

## Winter 2010

**All things new?** 2 Corinthians 5:17 tells us that people who give their life to Christ are new creations, the old has passed away and a new thing is happening. Why is it then, that Christians make a habit of reminding people of their past? It seems that we're really good at forgiving people, but not so good at forgetting their mistakes. As a result many people who are new believers easily stumble in their faith and those of us which are too walk along side and disciple new believers become their judge.



Near the end of the month we'll be working through a series entitled "Scarred". I really appreciate the title because it clarifies what we as believers are to be, we are new creations with scars of past mistakes and failures. Although those things are behind us, they still impact us. When we begin to grasp this, we can truly begin to realize what it means when Paul says to the church in Rome, "All things work together for good, to those who love God and are called according to his purpose".

## For Your Consideration...

ARTICLES

### LEADERSHIP: MOVING FROM EXPERT TO COACH

By Doug Franklin

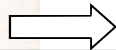
Releasing teenagers to perform without letting them fail is the hardest part of developing leaders. Adults are often too quick to fix the problems that students encounter. Adults don't want anything to go wrong, so they miss the opportunity to teach great leadership lessons.

On a recent trip I was challenging students to push themselves as they ran wheelbarrows of concrete up a hill. After every time I yelled, "Push yourselves, you can do it!" an adult leader would yell "You're doing good, don't worry." The truth is that teenagers are not doing good if they're not working to their potential. Keeping them in their comfort zones will never help them develop into leaders. You can make them happy, but it can't make them great. I believe students have to work through difficulties if they are to become leaders. (To read the rest of Doug's article, just click on the link "Leadership: Moving From Expert to Coach" in the "Highest Rated" section of our Articles area.)

The book **Guy Talk, Girl Talk** from Simply Youth Ministry discusses the importance of giving top priority to our relationship with God and offers these three key elements of a healthy relationship:

- 1. Establish and maintain an open line of communication.** When God sent the prophet Nathan to call David out on his sins, David cried out to God. After working hard to cover things up, David recognized that it was most important for him to be honest with God.
- 2. Learn new things about one another.** As much as you think you know about God, you've only scratched the surface. When we open the Bible we learn three things: who God is, who we are, and how God wants us to act. We also learn simply by experiencing life as a follower of God, by trusting him and seeing his promises come true in our own lives.
- 3. Spend time together.** You can't expect to have a good relationship with God if you never talk to him. God needs to be our #1 relationship, period. That means we need to make sure we spend time with him as much as we would a good friend.

If young people learn to spend time with God and get to know his character and goodness, that will rub off on their other relationships. That's because the same characteristics of a healthy relationship with God apply to all relationships in life.



<http://www.youthministry.com/?q=node/16827>

### Winter Blast 2010...Update...

The theme of Winter Blast this year was "Tangle", based off of Hebrews 12:1, "Let us throw off everything that so easily entangles..." and this retreat was full of tangles. As I mentioned to our students, it's important to realize that in the midst of the disappointment that came as a result of the retreat being canceled, God still has a purpose in how everything worked out. Whatever the reason, it was for our good and I pray that each of us can see that.

We are still working on getting refunds to you. The ski resort has verbally agreed to hold our deposit for next years trip, the fun depot money will be fully refunded and roughly 50% of the District Money will be refunded. It's just a matter of how soon we will get it. Thanks for your understanding and patience in this.

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# Youth

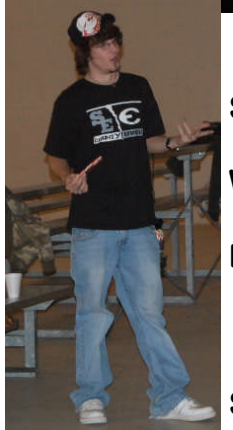
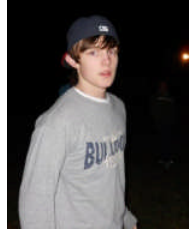
Phil. 3:10



## LIPCOMING EVENTS !!



Day	Date	Activity	Cost
Sun.	Mar. 7th	LIFE Dep.	\$150
Fri- Sat.	Mar. 12-13th	Project 10:45 (See att. Letter)	\$25
Sun.	Mar. 14th	YG @ Rosati's	
Wed.	Mar. 17th	Game Night	
Fri.-Sat.	Mar. 26th-27th	BBQ Dinner Fundraiser	
Sat.	Apr. 10th	Yard Sale/Carwash Fundraiser	



Don't forget Youth Fundraiser Dinners are the second Wednesday of every month.



Don't forget to check out the church website for all the latest updates, and weekly lessons @ [www.bloominglealliancecma.org](http://www.bloominglealliancecma.org) If you have any questions feel free to contact me @ 912 247 5280 or [rosati@bellsouth.net](mailto:rosati@bellsouth.net)

