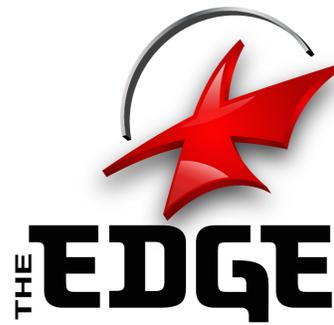


Welcome to Middle School

September 2020



Dear Middle School Parent,

Have those words hit you yet? You are the parent of a middle schooler! As this reality sets in, allow me a few minutes of your time to introduce you to our middle school ministry, the EDGE.

First off, if this time in your child's life could be summed up with one word, it would be **CHANGE**. Over the next 3 years, your son/daughter will go through some exciting, interesting, amazing, and at times frustrating changes. These changes include:

- **Social Changes** - Peer pressure increases as friendships become a bigger influence than in the past. "What will my friends think?" becomes a guiding question in their young lives.
- **Physical Changes** - Puberty, growth spurts and many other changes taking place in their bodies.
- **Intellectual Changes** - They will begin to think abstractly, push boundaries by questioning authority, and yes, you'll even see some maturing along the way as well.
- **Spiritual Changes** - Questioning their faith and what they have been taught can be a scary time for parents, but this is a necessary part of them making their faith their own.

As our kids get older and mature, their lives will be shaped by the choices that they will make for themselves, especially when it comes to their faith. That is why our goal is to introduce your pre-teen to a life-long relationship with Jesus Christ and to give them the spiritual tools and resources they need to grow in that relationship. We seek to do this through our weekly meeting on Wednesday nights and through the various events and retreats that we do throughout the year. In addition, I am incredibly blessed to work alongside an incredible team of volunteers that love Jesus and provide great examples of what it looks like to be a Jesus follower.

In a world of ups and downs, difficulties and challenges, especially in the current age of COVID, our heart is to be a constant source of spiritual encouragement and stability, always pointing our kids to Jesus and making sure that we have lots of fun along the way!

EDGE kicks off on Wednesday, September 23rd, 7PM-8:30PM. Have your child come and check it out. They can also start attending our monthly FUSION events where we bring both the middle and high school groups together for night of worship, spiritual challenge, and fun. This is purely your choice as to whether or not your child is ready to take this step and move up into EDGE. If you feel they are not yet ready and want to hold them back, the next time they will be able to move up into EDGE will be January 2021. After that, the summer will be their next opportunity. Please keep me in the loop with whatever you decide and feel free to ask as many questions as you need to during this process.

Looking back, it was during my middle school years that I become passionate and serious about my relationship with Jesus Christ. It's when I started to really own my faith. My prayer is that all of the kids who walk through our doors will do the same. As we seek to provide a safe environment for your child to connect socially and to be challenged spiritually, I want thank you for allowing Island Christian Church, and myself, to play a small part in God's plan for your child. I look forward to getting to know you and your family this coming year... and remember we are in this together!

Let's Stay Connected!

Sign Up To Receive Important Text Updates
From The ICC Youth Ministry...

TEXT

“EDGE” (If you are in 6th-8th Grades)
“FUEL” (9th-12th Grades)
“PARENTS” (If Your Child Is In EDGE or FUEL)

TO

631-337-8233

**You will receive a link. Please click on it and carefully fill out the necessary info. After that, you will be signed up to receive weekly updates and the latest news about what's going on at EDGE and FUEL this year. Thank you!

Other points of connection...



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