

✘ Achievement Motivation ✘

YOUNG PERSON IS MOTIVATED TO DO WELL IN SCHOOL.

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Jeremiah arose from a small town in central Minnesota from a mother who still thinks she is 16 and a father whose humor is as dry as the Sahara Desert. The brother of Jeremiah is messing around in the army for the summer and has left his one and a half year old daughter home for the grandma and grandpa to dress up in as many different outfits as possible each day. Jeremiah has a wonderful friend who is a girl living in southern Minnesota. He also has a strong heart for community and wishes he had a large beard.

Pressing On

Philippians 3:14 "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Jesus Christ."



- What did you used to want to be when you grew up?
- What do you want to be now? Different from before? Why?
- Motivation for either?
- How do you define motivation?
- What types of things are you motivated to do?
- What ways can motivation be bad/good?
- How do rewards motivate you? What rewards are appropriate motivations?
- What person or groups of people motivate or influence you?
- How can you motivate others?
- How do others motivate you?
- Does motivation only come from people and/or ourselves? How else do we receive it?
- How can God motivate you?
- Have any of you experienced God's motivation? How?

So What?

What motivates you for...

- School
- Family
- Friends
- Athletics
- Work
- Yourself
- Other...



Create your own motivational poster reflecting your thoughts from the discussion.

Candle Time

Give everyone a small candle. Have each person light his/her candle and say a prayer for an area that needs motivation.

Start the prayer with these words "Lord you are my strength and comfort, encourage me to..." Have each person continue this way by lighting the person's candle next to him or her.



EXPLORE

Luke 2:40	He was filled with wisdom, and the grace...
Luke 21:15	For I will give you words and wisdom...
2 Timothy 2:15	Study to show thyself approved unto God...
Deuteronomy 4:9	Watch yourself closely so that you do not forget...
Proverbs 1:7	The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom...
Proverbs 3:13	Blessed is the man who finds wisdom, who gains...



▣ *Leader Page* ▣

Discussion Goal

Encourage, support and pray for group member's goals.

Background

In today's society, one must be educated to be successful and prosperous. The children we raise will be the future of our world. Harnessing goals for education, friends, community, family, school and faith all require motivation from within, and from outside, guiding people on the right path.

“For I will give you words and wisdom...” (Luke 21:15). God promises not only us, but also our young ones that God will guide us in our words, allowing us to teach and learn the wisdom that God stresses throughout the Bible. Gaining this wisdom can be difficult and one must be aware of what he/she engages in. “Watch yourself closely so that you do not forget.” (Deut 4:9) Children can understand that being studious and educated is a worthy expectation. God promises in Proverbs 3:13 to reward us as we further edify ourselves. God looks upon us with favor if we are wise, because with our knowledge comes love and respect for one another. God is love, and he wishes us all to share a love that only he can provide. “And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.” (1 John 4:16)

Motivate

Read Philippians 3:14. Note that Paul's ultimate goal and his motivation seem to be the final prize. Point out that we may have lots of goals. While heaven may be one, think of all the other goals including, school, future, friendships, material goals and so forth. Have everyone take a piece of paper and a marker and write descriptive words and short phrases for his or her personal motivations. Let each person share some of his or her motivations. Note how different they are from each other, some being external and others internal.



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