

Leader Announcements

February 11, 2026

What's up middle school leaders? This is Jackson Baird here with this week's leader announcements for February 11th.

Heart To Heart Week 2

This week we have week two of our heart-to-heart series with the topic being, what is love? We are also going to continue with our new grade formats where each grade will be in a separate location similar to what we did last week. So some groups will now be in the gym, one group will be in the cafe, the other group will be in the bridges room. We also will be doing our service project this week, so we'll be setting up the carpet squares for Night to Shine so that they have their dance floor ready for them. It's a little bit that we do to help with the event.

Night To Shine

We also still have sign-up spots open for Night to Shine, which is February 13th. So if you have a student that you know wants to sign up, they can still sign up on the middle school events page to be a dance buddy. Adult leaders, if you want to, you can also sign up to help with other parts of the event on the main church page, so please do.

Formal Night: February 18

We also have formal night on February 18th, which is going to be this month's theme night for middle school ministry. Students and leaders are encouraged, but not required, to dress up in formal attire. So you can come up with your middle school shirt or you can come in in a five-piece suit. Your choice.

Baptism Sunday

Also, February 22nd is Baptism Sunday, so we have some students getting baptized. So there will be baptisms at all three services, so we're really excited about that.

Super Saturday: March 7

And then our big event coming up will be Super Saturday on March 7th. We did this event last year, so we're running it back this year. And we're going to be doing a fast food progressive dinner. So how that works is we'll all get on a bus, and then we'll go from fast food to fast food and get one item from each restaurant. So last year, we got churros from Taco John's, then we got drinks from Sonic, we got fries from McDonald's, Chick-fil-A sandwiches from Chick-fil-A, and then ended with ice cream sundaes at the community center. So we're going to be doing that this year with all new fast foods. So, super excited. Now, here's Joe Budish with your leader tip.

Leader Tip: Student Discipline

Wow, thank you. So Jackson, I've got our leader tip for the week, and I want to share with you about our student discipline process. I thought this would be a good time for a refresh. If there is a student who is constantly pushing boundaries or breaking the rules, the first thing that I would suggest you do, step one, is to try to, in the context of whatever you're doing, whether you're playing a game or you're in a small group discussion or doing an activity, just try to gently correct the student. Ask them to stop, explain what they're doing wrong, and see if they respond that way. If the behavior from the student continues, then you move to step two. Step two is you pull the student or students privately off to the side and have a separate conversation with them, where, again, you need to be clear about what the expectation is, what they are doing that is going against the expectation, and telling them what you need them to do, what they need to change. And in that conversation with that student or students, you can say, hey, I really don't want to get Joe or Rachel involved, but if you guys don't respond to this challenge that I'm giving you right now, I will need to get Joe and Rachel involved. Please, throw Rachel and I's name around as the bad guys, if that's helpful. And then step three, if the kids do not respond, is please come talk to me or talk to Rachel, and then we will step in and get

involved. And we will do our best to back you up, whatever you've said. And we, when Rachel and I talk to the student, we will threaten step four, which is we would say, hey, here's the expectation. Here's what we need you to do. I'm going to give you a chance to make changes, but if you can, I will call your parents and get your parents involved. I really don't want to have to do that, but I will. So we'll throw out the threat of getting parents involved. So step three is bringing Rachel and I in on the situation. Step four, if it needs to get to that point, we will get kids' parents involved. But we want to give their parent, we want to give them a chance to respond and step up and improve before we get their parents involved. Step five would involve temporarily removing a child from the ministry. That has happened on very rare occasions, but it rarely gets to that point. So I just share that with you so that you've got a game plan for how to deal with difficult students. Rachel and I are here to back you up. And this is all so that everybody can have a great environment and a good experience in middle school ministry. Back to you, Jackson.

Wrap-Up

Wasn't that an absolutely amazing leader tip? Thank you guys for serving in middle school ministry, and we will see you on Wednesday. Peace.