



# Agape Youth Ministry

## PROGRESS REPORT

March 2021

### WELCOME!

It is our goal to keep you updated with the latest news about the activities of **Agape Youth Ministry (AYM)** and its various programs with hope that you may want to join us in our mission to work where God is working by helping to develop future Christian leaders from the young adults in our Local communities.

### **DONATE NOW!!!!**

**AYM** is an Arizona Corporation as well as an IRS 501(c)(3) nonprofit Christian organization, which depends on donations to be able to provide programs to help our youth. If you are interested in supporting AYM / WMY's programs, donations may be made through our website: [www.agapeyouth.org](http://www.agapeyouth.org) or mailing a check to **Agape Youth Ministry P.O. Box 2145, Pinetop AZ 85935**

*Thank you!*



### **1<sup>st</sup> Dig Deeper Bible School (DDBS) Class #1 to Graduate, Saturday April 17th at 2:00 pm**

Dan Parcell, the WMY Coordinator/DDBS Teacher, has arranged for graduation ceremonies for the first 6 students who have completed 4 semesters (16-week each) of the DDBS classes. The Graduation will be held on *Saturday, April 17 at 2pm at First Baptist Church of Pinetop.*

These 6 students will be moving on to DDBS's "Faith in Action" program and participating in AYM's Student Leadership Program, attending weekend conferences with Student Leadership University and Summer mission trips with Teen Mission International ([www.teenmissions.org](http://www.teenmissions.org)).

Pastor Curtis Fahlender, Senior Pastor of First Baptist Church of Pinetop and Pastor Kerby, "The Church," youth group associate, will be the guest speakers. Pastor Curtis was raised on the Mountain and can tell his story of youth group experiences, leading into his full-time pastoral ministry.

The goals of the Dig Deeper Bible School are:

To provide the student with an understanding of the Bible.

\*To provide a sound foundation to build a lasting relationship with Jesus.

To give the student a confidence in their personal salvation.

\*To help the student understand the world vs The Kingdom of Heaven.

\*To build a faith that can endure criticism and questioning.

\*To prepare the student for a servant heart toward Jesus.

### **Semesters 101/102 and 201/202 Overview:**

101 focuses on:

The Bible as a book.

Understanding how it was translated

Getting to know who God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit are.

Understanding the Trinity.

Types of religious beliefs.

Uniqueness of Christianity.

Creation account.

Introduction to Hermeneutics and Apologetics.

102 focuses on:

Applying Hermeneutics and Apologetics to:

Genesis, chapters 1, 2 and 3.

Matthew, chapters 1, 2 and 3.

Review of the parables of Jesus.

The passion and resurrection of Christ.

Introduction to Evangelism.

201 focuses on:

Introduction to Typology.

Applying Hermeneutics, Apologetics and

Typology to:

Noah's flood.

The story of Joseph.

The Exodus.

The book of Daniel.

202 focuses on:

Understanding the New Testament as a book.

Understanding Christian principles as they relate to:

Faith.

Forgiveness.

Salvation.

Eternal life with God.

Preparing students for living out the Christian life.

Encouraging critical thinking with respect to the "world".

Preparing students for ministry.

## Follow-up to Dig Deeper class is "Faith In Action"

This program seeks to:

- Help students find their individual spiritual gifts.
- Prepare the student for Ministry work.

This consists of Biblical studies, exploration of local ministries and guest speakers from multiple local ministries as well as visiting local ministries

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### A Note from Agape Youth Ministry's CEO, Gordy Lange:

Congratulations to the 6 students and their parents who have been so committed to complete our first Dig Deeper Bible School classes. A special thanks to Dan Parcell, who has been led by our loving God to develop the School's program. Dan hopes to start DDBS classes in September which will include students that have missed classes.

AYM has partnered with Dan's Community Youth Group, White Mountain Youth INC to provide a template for future Community Youth Groups in Arizona and establishing more Dig Deeper Schools under AYM's Student Leadership Program.

I have been so impressed by Dan and his students moving forward with DDBS classes, considering most of this time was during the Covid-19 Virus restrictions.

Some of these graduating students have committed to continue on in our Student Leadership Program and will be attending Student Leadership University conferences and Teen Missions International missions program. Please keep them in prayer.

Agape Youth Ministry's mission for over 20 years has been committed to develop strong Christian-based programs for youth. To further this mission, *AYM's Fellowship-Knowledge-Go!* Program was developed to produce strong Christian Leaders in Christ's Church. Dr David Jeremiah described Christ church "as first and foremost an invisible, spiritual reality. It is the organic union of all who have been given new birth by the Holy Spirit as a result of faith in Jesus Christ." So, the purpose of the universal church is to continue the work that Jesus Christ began on earth until He returns at the end of the age.

It is AYM's mission to prepare our youth to continue the work that our Lord Jesus Christ began on earth. Mathew 28: 18-20 is Jesus' instructions to us all .... "Go, make disciples of all nations.... baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit."

## A Note from White Mountain Youth, INC's Founder and Teacher, Dan Parcell:

As a young Christian I had many questions; I had a hard time finding an acceptable answer to those questions. I heard a lot of big words thrown around that I did not completely understand. I thought I was the only one that did not really understand. As I talked more with other mature Christians on Biblical subjects, I would get different answers and sometimes admission that they themselves did not entirely understand some words and concepts relating to the Bible and to Christianity.

I had heard many things about how the Bible contradicted itself and how science had disproved the Bible. Many Christians told me I just needed more faith. That was not working for me. I began to investigate the claims made against the Bible and Christianity. To my surprise I found those claims to be false. I found that there was actually a lot of evidence that supported the content of the Bible. Misunderstandings and misrepresentations of Biblical narratives, I found to be at the root of scoffers' arguments. The more I learned how to interpret the Bible, the clearer the truth became.

I have used these experiences to come up with the curriculum for the Dig Deeper School. I not only designed the classes to answer the question I had as a young Christian, but also to answer current questions I had. This required anywhere from 6 to 30 hours of research per class. I tested everything I investigated with the Word of God to ensure its accuracy. I focused on first knowing the Bible as a library of ancient inspired writings, gaining understanding of the difficulties of translating from not only a different language, but also an ancient language. Understanding the culture in Biblical times was also very important to get the true meaning of Biblical text.

The depth that these classes were researched goes way beyond your normal Church Sunday School class experience. The purpose of the classes of Dig Deeper School was not to make these young people feel good about Christianity, but rather to truly understand the Bible and what is expected from the life of a Christian.

With the help of the Holy Spirit, young people are able to understand hermeneutics, apologetics, and typology to assist in a proper exegetical interpretation of the Bible. As I said this is not your normal Sunday School experience.