



# Agape Youth Ministry's **PROGRESS REPORT**

May 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.

### **Agape Youth Ministry Semi-Annual Board Meeting**

Agape Youth Ministry is to hold its semi-annual Board meeting on July 17 in Pinetop, Arizona.

This is a great opportunity for those individuals who feel led to make an impact with our youth in developing future Christian leaders through our FELLOWSHIP-KNOWLEDGE-GO! program. Agape Youth Ministry has Board positions open, to see the qualification for a Board position go to our Web site, [agapeyouth.org](http://agapeyouth.org) for position qualifications and applications. Note: Geographic location not an issue for Board membership.

#### **What does being a Board Member Look Like???**

Board member commits to help oversee and direct the ministry in its mission.

Board member commits to attend quarterly meetings and annual meetings, in person or by conference (phone or Zoom type).

Board member commits to help financially raise funds for the ministry.

## **GET INVOLVED!**

Are you led to impact youth through our programs and want help start a Community Youth Group Program?

#### **What would that look like???**

**FELLOWSHIP**-Come alongside and develop a community youth group to support church youth groups in a community and help develop joint activities with AYM support.

**KNOWLEDGE**-Establish a Dig Deeper Bible School in a local community from the community youth group program and promote the Student Leadership Program with AYM support.

**GO!**- Go out into the world placing interns in church youth groups, youth ministries, college ministries, or in the work place with AYM support.

If you are interested in helping start a Community Youth Group in your community, contact AYM CEO Gordy Lange at 602-363-6387 (text) or [agpeyouth@agapeyouth.org](mailto:agpeyouth@agapeyouth.org).

### **AYM STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS STILL AVAILABLE**

AYM'S Scholarship program still has scholarships available to church youth for summer programs. AYM will provide up to \$100 per student, maximum \$500 per church for student summer programs. Check our web site for applications.



## **WHITE MOUNTAIN YOUTH INC**

A Community Youth Group of Agape Youth Ministry

### **WHITE MOUNTAIN YOUTH INC**

#### **TO SEND STUDENTS TO WORLDVIEW ACADEMY SUMMER CAMP**

White Mountain Youth INC will be sending 4 students and one adult to Worldview Academy's week-long summer camp at the end of June in Glendale, Arizona. The students are part of AYM/WMY INC Student Leadership Program and AYM's Scholarship Program.

# White Mountain Youth INC set summer/fall schedule

July-Church Youth Groups Pool/BBQ outreach-ShowLow Aquatic Center

August-Church Youth Groups/Public Apologetic's Conference

August-Church Youth Groups/Public Music Jam and outreach by AYM's Rise for Christ Program-Possible at the "Truck Stop"

September-Start new WMY Dig Deeper Bible School

Fall 2021- Bible Jeopardy Program for Church Youth Groups. (Program involves substantial prize money to winning youth groups)

## HELP WANTED!!

If you have a heart to help develop our future Christian generation and live in the White Mountain area (ShowLow, Lakeside, Pinetop, Snowflake/Taylor etc.), you might want to get involved with White Mountain Youth. They will need help in developing their summer programs and working with the local church youth groups. For more information on how you can serve, contact White Mountain Youth INC coordinator Dan Parcell at 928-892-2157 (text).

## DID JESUS START HIS MINISTRY WITH TEENAGERS??????

OR

### How did Jesus view the role of youth and young adults in the church?

Well, Jesus never came right out and gave us a direct answer to that question, however we do have some clues. Let's look a little deeper at this question. Matthew chapter 17 verses 24,25 and 27 says the following:

*24 After Jesus and his disciples arrived in Capernaum, the collectors of the two-drachma temple tax came to Peter and asked, "Doesn't your teacher pay the temple tax?" 25 "Yes, he does," he replied. (Jesus says), 27 "But so that we may not cause offense, go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it to them for my tax and yours."*

Why is this important? As we see, the other disciples were present, however Jesus only provides the temple tax for himself and Peter. Why didn't Jesus pay the taxes for the other disciples? We learn some other key information in the Talmud, (Rabbinic writing of all aspects of the Jewish life and religious observances). 1. Temple tax is to be paid by all males over the age of 20 years. 2. At the age of about 13, a young Jewish male would begin Rabbinical studies if he was to go into religious studies. If he was unable to find a teacher to accept him he would go into his father's business. 3. A young man was expected to be married by around the age of 18. 4. A teacher would not accept a student that was older than himself.

In Luke 4:38-39 Jesus heals the mother-in-law of Peter, therefore we know Peter was married. Since Peter was also responsible to pay the Temple tax we know he was at least 20 years old. Peter is listed first in almost all of the gospels and in the book of Acts. Why? This may be because he was the oldest of the disciples. Jewish males would in most cases follow their father's career paths, yet we know of none of the disciples' sons becoming early church leaders. Could this be because they started following Jesus prior to the age of 18, dedicated their lives to Jesus and thus never married or had children? We know Peter was married but no mention of him having children either. Jewish families were expected to have children. Luke 3:23 tells us, "Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry....." This tells us that the disciples would have been at least under 30 years of age. Other information tells us they were probably much younger than that even. If the disciples were between the ages of 13 and 20 when they were called by Jesus and Jesus' ministry lasted 3 to 3 1/2 years, they would have been maybe 16 or 17 to 23 or 24 years old at the time of Matthew 28:16-20, The Great Commission!

So how did Jesus view the role of youth and young adults in the church? Well, it is very possible that he put the future of the church in the hands of 11 young people on that mountain when he delivered the Great Commission to the disciples. **Nothing is different today, as followers of Jesus, we at Agape Youth Ministry and White Mountain Youth INC. feel it is our responsibility to equip our youth with the knowledge and tools to bring about a faithful and loyal following for the Church of Jesus Christ in the future, through sound Biblical teaching, just as Jesus did!**

**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)

***Thank you!***