

Summer 2021



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Dear Parents of **Created To Be Me** campers,

On behalf of **Just Say Know Ministry**, thank you for enrolling your young person in a one-of-a-kind church camping experience, entitled **Created To Be Me**, (also known as "Eighter's.") Since 1988, **Just Say Know** (formerly CLER Ministries) has been striving to provide comprehensive, age-appropriate faith-based sexuality education. Our goal is to help students pursue wholeness, both physically and spiritually, in this important area of their lives.

We have continued to expand and update our curriculum to be more inclusive in how we address family structures and the complexity of human sexuality related to sexual orientation and gender diversity. This is incorporated in the curriculum not to advocate a particular position, but to create a caring, informed atmosphere where participants have consistent information and a supportive community for learning. Please review the attached overview of the Keynote and Workshop information for a better understanding of what happens during camp.

- **Workshops** provide in-depth presentations about anatomy, orientations, sexual intimacy, conception, love, dating, peer-pressure, sexually transmitted infections, contraception and personal accountability.
- **Keynotes**, along with the workshops, provide spiritual and faith-based perspectives on the different subjects covered.
- **Small Groups** give participants a place to process what they are learning with trained, caring adult leaders while shaping their own understanding about God's good gift of sexuality and what it means for their life.

The **Created To Be Me**[®] curriculum strongly presents abstinence as the best decision prior to marriage and a committed, loving, lifelong relationship. The entire program is built around the theme that God designed sexual intimacy to be a powerful and wonderful gift within that relationship.

Just Say Know Ministry believes teens should be educated comprehensively regarding the prevention of unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections, as well as the emotional consequences of early sexual activity. When youth have access to factual information, they can make more responsible and well-informed choices.

While participants will receive in-depth education about sexuality and related issues in the daily workshops, they will learn these things within the context of the life of Jesus and the love of God for each of them during the daily keynotes. A huge factor in being able to make good choices for their lives is a close and loving relationship with God. We ask that you hold all of us in your prayers the week of camp. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at michael.ratliff@justsayknowministry.com.

In Christ's Love,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Ratliff', written in a cursive style.

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OVERVIEW OF KEYNOTES AND WORKSHOPS

INTRODUCTORY KEYNOTE

"RETURN TO EDEN"

Scriptural Focus: Genesis 1:26-31, 2:18-25, Genesis 3

This keynote will bring the Genesis scriptures to life by "imagining" what it was like in the beginning for these first two human creations of God - what it really meant to be "naked and unashamed" and "to be fruitful and multiply". We will look at the equal stewardship in the garden and then we move to the fall and the consequences that were suffered as a result of making the wrong decision - choosing their way instead of God's. Decisions made by youth today "going their own way" will be shared and youth will be encouraged to look to God for guidance and to understand that God loves them and is in their blessings and in their consequences - God always has a plan!

DAY 1 KEYNOTE

"ADOLESCENCE - JESUS LEADS THE WAY"

Scriptural Focus: Luke 1:26-38, 2:8-14, 41-52

This keynote will set the stage for looking at the humanity of Jesus so youth can begin to understand that he experienced some of the same things they will be dealing with. We begin by looking at a teenage Mary discovering she is pregnant with the Messiah. How would a teenage girl react to such news? Parents? Joseph? Why did God choose someone so young? What was it like for Mary and Joseph to know they would be raising God's very own son? We also examine Jesus' adolescence with the purpose of helping youth to begin to see Jesus as their role model. The keynote stresses God has a special purpose for each of our lives if we will listen for God's voice and look for guidance.

DAY 1 WORKSHOP

"THE MARVELOUS MALE"

This workshop will begin by defining terms about sexual orientations and then will take youth through the wonders of being the "marvelous male" by studying the male reproductive anatomy, puberty changes, and sexual response.

DAY 2 KEYNOTE

"DISCIPLES LIKE CHRIST"

Scriptural Focus: Mark 5:21-34; Luke 10:38-42; Matthew 25:31-40

It is impossible to be a disciple if one does not know what Jesus did while he was here with us. Stories of Jesus' relationship with women, the Pharisees, the sick and oppressed, and the disciples are explored. Jesus' love for mankind and his acceptance of the outcasts of the world are major themes in this keynote. The power of youth to make a difference in the lives of others is also part of this presentation.

DAY 2 WORKSHOP

"THE FABULOUS FEMALE"

An in-depth look at the "Fabulous Female," the reproductive anatomy, puberty changes, and female pride issues. We will also talk about how God's gift of sexual intimacy is to be enjoyed, and how conception, multiple births, etc. occur.

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DAY 3 KEYNOTE

“FREEING THE OPPRESSED”

Scriptural Focus: Luke 4:14-21—Luke 6:17-19

This keynote focuses on Jesus’ “mission statement” found in Luke 4:14-21 where he reads from the scroll in the synagogue about setting the oppressed free and proclaims that the Scripture is fulfilled in their hearing. We look at Jesus’ ministry of healing and setting captives free and then the focus turns to the oppressed in our world today who are suffering as a result of human trafficking. Campers will be made aware of the statistics and the devastation of this worldwide practice, focusing especially on “sex trafficking.”

DAY 3 WORKSHOP

“DATING: FINDING A REAL CONNECTION-SEEING GOD IN ONE ANOTHER”

Scriptural Focus: 1 Corinthians 3:16-20

This keynote will explore dating situations and look at dating pitfalls: 1) One-on-one dating beginning at 16; 2) The dangers of high school youth dating junior high youth; 3) The mistake of forsaking friendships for romantic relationships; 4) The dangers of spending too much time together alone; 5) Drinking and dating - a dangerous combination; 6) Defining date rape and abuse – Recognizing violent or controlling relationships; 7) Peer Pressure.

“DEGREE OF AROUSAL - HOW FAR IS TOO FAR?”

Workshop presentation on Degree of Arousal will help youth understand the power of arousal and the importance of “drawing their line” before they are in a serious relationship so that they do not compromise their self-esteem or their relationship with God.

DAY 4 KEYNOTE

“SEXUAL INTIMACY, THE GIFT WORTH WAITING FOR”

Scriptural Focus: John 8:1-11

Through personal sharing, Keynoter will help youth understand the emotional pain and scarring that can sometimes occur when the gift of sexual intimacy is used outside of a loving and committed relationship. God’s forgiveness and renewal are emphasized throughout this session.

DAY 4 WORKSHOP

“THE COST OF BEING SEXUALLY ACTIVE”

Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) This will be an in-depth presentation of the most common sexually transmitted infections, including HIV. Symptoms, cures, and methods of transmission will be discussed, along with true-life stories of people who have contracted these infections and how it has impacted their lives.

DAY 5 WORKSHOP

“CONTRACEPTIVES”

This workshop will give youth an understanding of the concept of contraceptives and how they are utilized in a committed relationship to help couples plan the size and spacing of their families. The complexity of each method is explained along with the statistical information as to its effectiveness. Side

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effects are discussed, and youth are shown that there are no contraceptives on the market that are risk-free.

DAY 5 FINAL KEYNOTE

“THE DYNAMIC DUO - JESUS AND YOU!”

Scriptural Focus: John 13:1-17, Matthew 26:26-29 and Matthew 27:32-46

We will take an in-depth look at the last few days in the life of Jesus. What were Jesus' thoughts as He entered Jerusalem and began preparations for his last moments with His disciples? This keynote will close with the promise that the exciting journey the disciples walked with Jesus is now theirs to walk.