

Parents,

We are anxiously awaiting Week 1 (Sunday, February 18, 2018) of our 4-week series on relationships, love, sex, and dating that we are calling *God, Guys & Girls*. As promised, we want to send you two letters each week, one leading into our gathering and one as a follow up. We previously stated that we would mail these to you. However, to help us save the church money, we will post these on the ZBC Youth Facebook PAGE. You can find this Facebook page by searching @zbcyouthgroup.



In Week 1, our lesson is titled “Relationships.” We chose to go very straightforward with our titles to make it clear that we aren’t going to beat around the bush in this series but have honest and meaningful conversation.

### **Message Overview:**

Drawing from the creation story and the fall in Genesis 1-4, the primary focus on the message is two thoughts on relationships:

1. **We need Relationships.** We will look at the early Genesis account to show how God wired us for relationships with others. This is not saying we need dating relationships in our lives. We just need other people.
2. **Relationships are Messy.** Because of everyone’s unique personalities and temperament (and throw in the problem of sin), relationships (again any and all relationships... parents, siblings, friends, boy/girlfriend) can get really complicated. We will look at two common issues that lead to relational messes.
  - When relationships push us away from God.
  - When relationships become God.

### **Big Idea:**

Each week, we will have a key statement that is a simple sentence or two for students to hold onto. This week’s big idea:

***Unless I'm wholeheartedly pursuing a relationship with Christ, all other relationships will be a hopeless attempt to fill that void.***

### **Some questions to talk with your student heading into the series:**

- What do you hope to hear in this new series?
- What do you hope to not hear?
- How important do you think relationships are to God?
- What do you think is the biggest struggle your school is facing in the whole dating scene? (Or, for some Middle Schoolers, What is the biggest struggle your school is facing in relationships with others?)

Please continue to pray for this series that students will be open to the Spirit’s nudging and that Jesus will be honored above all.

Partnering with you,

Bro. Doug Hamblin