

Dear Parents:

We want to inform you that tomorrow night we will begin a new series called “More than Friends”. The purpose of this series will be to discuss the Biblical view of dealing with relationships. All relationships can be tricky, but none seem trickier than middle school and high school romantic ones. When a relationship moves from “friends” to “more than friends” things can get complicated in a hurry. In this series as we look at what God says about how we treat others and how we allow them to treat us, we’ll see that being more than friends doesn’t have to be as complicated as it seems.

### Series overview:

**Week 1:** To help students begin to think clearly and long-term when it comes to their current or future dating relationships. Whether you want to date someone or are dating someone, one thing is true: When you’re in middle and high school, dating is on your mind. But for all the time we spend thinking about it, as soon as we actually start dating the thinking tends to stop. This week, we’ll discover that the best thing we can do for ourselves and our dating relationships is to keep thinking.

**Week 2:** To help students understand that while they can’t always pick their circumstances when it comes to dating, they can always pick their perspective. Being more than friends with someone—and even the idea of being more than friends with someone—can be an emotional roller coaster at times. Rather than let our feelings and emotions on the inside dictate our actions on the outside, what if you had the power to choose? No matter what is or isn’t happening in your dating life, you have the power to pick your perspective and, with God’s help, that perspective can be joy.

**Week 3:** To help students understand that when it comes to breaking free from things that enslave them, they can’t keep just make a commitment or promise to themselves and expect a different result. While we may want to act like pornography doesn’t exist or impact us, the reality is that, between social media, TV, movies, and the Internet, porn has the potential to destroy the health of our relationships. We will look at some wisdom from Jesus Himself and see that we can keep our lives and relationships healthy by taking extreme steps to fight against temptations that permeate our lives.

**Week 4:** To help students understand that it’s important to learn how to handle a breakup in a healthy way, even if they’re not in a relationship right now. Breaking up is

hard to do. And whether you're in a relationship now or will be in one in the future, a breakup is almost inevitable at some point in the future. And while all breakups are difficult, they don't have to cause permanent damage. We will discover that valuing others and ourselves at all times is the key to going through a breakup that doesn't break you.

We are grateful for the privilege of partnering with you in raising up students who seek the Lord! We truly believe in this generation and the power they have to change the world through Christ. We are praying for you parents as you raise your teenagers. You probably don't hear it enough, but thank you for all that you do as parents.

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