

## Summit Youth Parents,

During the month of February, Summit Youth will be working through a teaching series called "The Garden: God's Original Design." Pastor Chuck and I will be teaching through this series, revealing the intentional design God wove into His creation. God and Man were in perfect relationship with each other; beauty and goodness ruled the day, just as God intended. But when Adam and Eve chose their way over God's way, sin corrupted everything. Our world is still reeling from that moment, and the twisted lies about God's original design are wreaking havoc on our students. This is perhaps most evident in the realm of love, sex, gender, and sexuality. Students are having conversations surrounding these issues right now, and the world is giving them false answers to their questions. We know that God's Word is true and that scripture is the only place to find answers to the questions they are asking. Through the saving work of Jesus on the cross, He calls us back "to the garden" and offers us a path to redemption and restoration, a path that we can call others to as well.

We know that you, as parents, are working hard to disciple and protect your children, and we want to come alongside you in your efforts. Throughout this series, we will cover the goodness of God's love and His purpose and design for sexuality. We will expose the darkness and equip students with practical tools to navigate these topics in a way that aligns with and honors God.

While our leaders are ready to have intentional conversations with your students, we will continually encourage your students to come to you to help them through some of these issues. God intentionally placed them in your care and will guide you in truth as you extend grace and love to your students.

The second page of this letter contains a breakdown of what each week in this series will entail. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions. If you feel uncomfortable having your student walk through these issues within our youth group context, please know that you are welcome to excuse them for the next few weeks.

Bradley Grennier
Summit Youth Pastor

## February 7: Love & Lust

**Big Idea:** In the Garden, everything was perfect before the fall of humanity. Due to Adam and Eve's rebellion, sin has corrupted everything, including our emotions and relationships. We will look at God's original design for relationships and what it looks like to navigate relationships in a broken world.

#### What is Love?

- Biblical standards vs. cultural standards
- God's design and satan's perversion

# **Living with Integrity**

- Navigating relationships
- Healthy boundaries

#### **February 14: Sex Matters**

**Big Idea:** We live in a world that promises sexual fulfillment when we do what feels best to us. But is that really true? This week, we'll expose the emptiness of that promise and contrast it with the true fulfillment that can only be found within God's intention for sexuality.

## A) Your Way

- sex isn't a big deal... "if it feels good, do it."
- pop culture references... "I do what I want" —> "Why do I feel this way?"
- negative realities of sex outside of marriage

## B) God's Way

- sex matters
- boundaries promote goodness
- positive realities of sex within marriage

## What about grace and forgiveness?

- Adulterous woman in John 8

## February 21: Asking the Tough Questions

**Big Idea:** As followers of Jesus, we will be pressed by the world with questions that can cause us to doubt, waiver, or stumble in our walk with Jesus. We want to help direct students by biblically answering some commonly asked tough questions.

- How do we know what is true?
- What does God's word say about LGBTQ issues?
- Is gender and sexuality truly a gospel issue?
- How do I live out the truth in a loving way?
- What do I do if what I feel doesn't align with what God's word says?