

THE FORGE

— YOUTH MINISTRY —

BY SKIFF LAKE BIBLE CHURCH



FORGED BY CHRIST.
FORMED FOR HIS PURPOSE.



I HAVE REFINED YOU...
I HAVE TESTED YOU IN
THE FURNACE OF AFFLICTION.

ISAIAH 48:10



FORGED BY CHRIST. FORMED FOR HIS PURPOSE.

"I have refined you... I have tested you in the furnace of affliction."—Isaiah 48:10

Dear Parents & Students,

Welcome! We are so excited to welcome both new and returning students back to Youth Group! We hope you had a wonderful summer. It was a blessing to spend time with many of our students through several summer events before taking a few weeks off to prepare for the upcoming ministry year. We are excited to get started again and have a lot of great things planned for the months ahead.

A New Vision: The Forge

As we looked ahead to this new year, one question kept coming up: *Who do we want to become as a youth ministry?* That question has led us to some exciting changes—not because we wanted something different, but because we want to become more intentional about helping students know Christ, grow in their faith, and live it out every day.

During our leadership conversations, one name continued to stand out: **The Forge**. While we will continue to refer to our ministry as Youth Group for now, *The Forge* represents the vision of what we believe God is calling us to become.

WHAT IS THE FORGE?

A forge is a place where metal is heated, refined, and shaped into something stronger and more useful. The process isn't always easy, but it produces strength, purpose, and beauty. In the same way, God uses His Word, the Holy Spirit, and our life experiences to shape us into lifelong followers of Jesus Christ.

What's New This Year?

Our goal isn't simply to have another youth program—our goal is to build disciples. One of the biggest changes will be to our Wednesday evening gatherings, transitioning to a more **intentional Bible study and discipleship format**.

Don't worry—we're not getting rid of the fun! There will still be games, laughter, food, and plenty of time to build friendships. However, we're creating more space for students to open God's Word together, ask difficult questions, and pray with one another.

Throughout the year, students can expect:

Biblical Teaching: Connecting God's Word to everyday life

Small Groups: Deepening faith & discussions

Worship & Prayer: Music & mutual encouragement

Service Opportunities: In church & community

Special Events: Outings & fun fellowship nights

Leadership Development: Serving & leading others

**We are also exploring adding a second evening during the week for students to gather. More details will be shared as plans develop!*

Key Information for Families

1. ANNUAL REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Each year we ask every family to complete a new registration form. This helps us keep emergency contacts, medical info, and permission forms current so we can care for your student well.

2. PARTNERING WITH PARENTS

Parents are the primary spiritual leaders in the lives of their children. Our desire is to partner with you. This year we will address topics students encounter daily. Whenever we plan to teach on sensitive cultural topics, **parents will receive advance notice** so you remain fully informed.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Youth Group Kickoff: Sunday, August 16

Time: 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

An updated regular meeting schedule and full ministry calendar will be sent to all families prior to the school year transition.

Staying Connected

Communication is vital to our ministry. Our primary communication methods this year will be:

- **Email & Informational Flyers**
- **Private Facebook Group** (for weekly topics, schedules, snack signups & events)
- **Text Messages** (reserved for urgent updates or last-minute changes)

Thank you for allowing us the privilege of investing in and discipling your teenager. We look forward to an incredible year together!

IN CHRIST, THE YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Jonathan Allen
Teaching & Leadership Coordinator

Ashley Allen
Hospitality Coordinator

Isaac Jordan
Small Group Leader

Alivia Reams
Events Coordinator

Pastor Adam Beard
Director of Youth Ministries