

# LYFE.line



The God-led kind of stuff. It's true lyfe.

October 2011

## Targeting → → your *soul*

### what's inside?

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What is the main purpose  
of being a Christian?

If the world listened to you  
for one minute, what would  
you say?

In what areas of your life  
do you find it easiest to  
compromise your  
standards?

If you were completely  
living for God, would you  
have any insecurities?

**This month we will be asking hard questions. We'll be talking about God... big time stuff. We'll seek the truth. We'll dare ourselves. One thing we'll remind ourselves though, is we have lots of time. (more on page 3)**

### DC Dare2Share weekend experience sign-ups

On January 20-21, 2012, we will be taking a group of students to the Dare2Share weekend experience called *GameDay*, a two day conference on how our students can be involved in God's game changing ministry and not sitting on the sidelines. Sign ups will be available throughout the entire months of October and November and will end December 1, 2011. For more information regarding Dare2Share or their weekend experience, go to [www.dare2share.org/gameday](http://www.dare2share.org/gameday). To sign up, contact Doug either through email, [dmiller@lewinsville.org](mailto:dmiller@lewinsville.org), by cell phone, 570-490-0758, through facebook, by putting a notice in his mailbox at the church or by calling the church office at 703-356-7200 ext. 34.

[www.lewinsville.org/youth](http://www.lewinsville.org/youth)

## Lewinsville Church Bike Ride



Even though it's the first day of the month, and we have the rest of the month to enjoy, we can always enjoy a church bike ride together!

October 1, 2011, at 10:30am is the date and time of our church bike ride. Details are below:

1. We'll meet in Reston at the Wiehle Avenue/W&OD Trail intersection, ride along the trail into Vienna.
2. The Oktoberfest Celebration in Vienna is where we'll have lunch.
3. After lunch, we'll ride back. Come join us!

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### World Religion Retreat: For Confirmands (DAY 1)

Friday October 21, the confirmation class will be visiting the synagogue to begin their fall retreat.

### World Religion Retreat: For Confirmands (DAY 2 and 3)

Saturday is the day the confirmands will visit the mosque and will close out their retreat with an in person view of the catholic church on Sunday.

**NEED A  
PLACE  
YOU CAN  
FEEL  
YOU BELONG  
TO?**

come join us on Sunday morning at 9:30am  
and Sunday night at 6pm in the Youth  
Center for fellowship and learning.

More info at [www.lewinsville.org/youth](http://www.lewinsville.org/youth)

*What are the questions that leave an everlasting mark on who we are and who God wants us to become?*

Do you ever wonder what your life would be like if you knew the difference between hope and unrealistic expectations? Would you, if you could, tell Satan what you really think about him and the life he lives, devouring weak souls? Why do you choose to say you believe in Jesus Christ but then live as if he doesn't exist?

If someone were to guess, they might deduce that

you believe what you believe because of what your parents told you, what you learned in Sunday school or during youth group or during church Sunday morning. They also might begin to understand who you really are when they see your actions when no one else does.

These people, some could call them angels, are everywhere. In fact, the one most of us know goes by *The Holy Spirit*. It comes and goes unseen, unheard and leaves a lasting mark on our hearts. It makes us think, breaks our pride, goes on walks with us, helps us talk to friends. There is nothing the Holy Spirit cannot do.

What does the Holy Spirit do for you? Does it probe you to think deeper about a specific topic? Does it make you feel compassion for someone who lost their home or something worse? Is the Holy Spirit alive inside of you? What are the questions that leave an everlasting mark on who you are and who God

wants you to become?

We ponder these questions way too much, sometimes. We always wonder where our lives are headed and what God has in store for us. You may find yourself, as you get older, realizing your interests change and the things you liked in middle school or high school you don't like as much anymore.

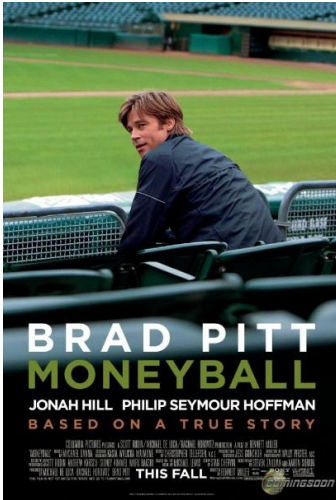
Many of these things have to do with questions we ask along our faith journey. What we are doing, however, is searching for truth. There is truth to everything that we do. There is truth in everything we are.

It takes courage to seek God. As you dive into studying God, and asking questions, invite him to your conversation with yourself and with others. Studying God and his Kingdom is a lifelong process. There will always be questions but one of the great things about God is that the conversation with him, especially asking questions and learning more, will never end. You have forever to explore Him. ✚✚✚

upcoming events

- **October 1:** Church bike ride @ 10:30am in Reston (see page 2)
- **October 2:** Westmin choir singing 830am; BBar 9:30am (classes at 10)
  - 7 Deadly Sins continues; ringers/choir rehearsal 4:30/5:15pm; LYFE/Taize 6/7pm
- **October 9:** Westminster choir singing 11am service
  - Ringers/Choir rehearsal 4:30/5:15pm; LYFE 6pm (Questions series)
- **October 16:** Alleluia ringers playing 11; evening youth programs continue
- **October 21-23:** World Religion Retreat (for confirmands) with Mentors
- **October 23:** Blood Drive; Ringers/Choir/Fellowship 4:30/5:15/6pm
- **October 30:** Ringers/Choir rehearsal 4:30/5:15pm; Fellowship 6pm

## Batter up!



Former professional baseball player Billy Beane took over as general manager for the Oakland A's in 1998, quickly turning the team into a perennial playoff team despite having a much lower payroll than teams like the New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox.

*Moneyball* isn't your average sports film mostly because it can't be. It is, after all, a film about two men who upend the traditional means for developing a baseball roster. The film daringly balances the usual sports film clichés with moments of existential drama. It focuses on management level problems but never forgets the players on the field. It's cynical and romantic all at once. I can't say I've ever seen a sports film quite like it. *Any Given Sunday* comes closest, but even Oliver Stone's behind-the-scenes look at football fails to provide an emotional struggle like that of Billy Beane's.

-[www.thenewyorktimes.com](http://www.thenewyorktimes.com)

## YOUTH WALK devo

Youth Walk magazine believes that God has invited us to press in and know Him, to discover who He is through the bible, and to awaken us into real life. This adventure of faith, according to Youth Walk magazine, is pioneered by Jesus Christ and powered by the Holy Spirit, is dangerous yet wonderful. It's day-to-day yet eternal, ordinary yet Holy.



The latest issue, entitled *Truth*, talks about how as Jesus-followers our first responsibility in life is to love Him. Then He calls us to love the people He created. And in the midst of loving Him and other people, we will question God, and truth, and about the meaning of life.

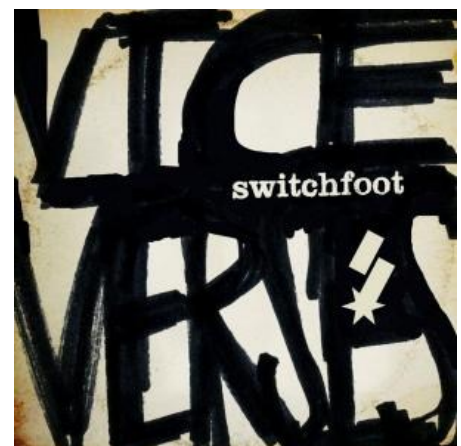
For a copy of the Youth Walk magazine, check the youth bulletin board, find them in the Youth Center or go online and read their devotional yourself. Stay tuned for next month's issue.

## Vice Verses

Vice Verses is a record of tension and release. It's an attempt to describe the polarity of the human experience. The highs and lows, laughter and pain, hope and fear, doubts and belief. Vice Verses is soul music - attempting to get to the heart of the human experience: Living in the tension and turning it into song.

Vice Verses is the work of a band that is so restless, they devote an entire song to the condition. You can hear the tension build along with the first chords of album opener, *Afterlife*: "I've tasted fire I'm ready to come alive. I can't just shut it up and fake that I'm alright. I'm ready now. I'm not waiting for the afterlife....I believe we start forever now."

-[www.newreleasetuesday.com](http://www.newreleasetuesday.com)



## Do HARD things..

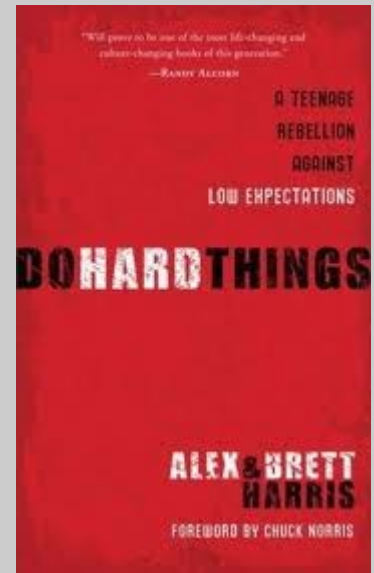
Do Hard things, by Alex and Brett Harris, is the story about us; the next generation fighting against rebellion.

Many of us want to do hard things but we don't know where to start. Others of us might be doing some things but we are getting tired and burnt out. Lots are searching for ways to be extraordinary for God but feel stuck in the ordinary.

Most people don't understand what Alex and Brett say

in this book and even if they do they don't care—they don't expect you to do anything about it. And, even if you do something about it, they don't expect it to last.

Do Hard Things is the Harris twins' revolutionary message in its purest form. It gives readers a tangible glimpse of what is possible for teens who actively resist cultural lies that limit their potential. Do you do hard things? If not, when do you plan to start?



## OUT OF ORDINARY

We have a choice. We can play it safe or we can seize the life that God has in mind for us. What's it gonna be?

One of the greatest stories of the bible can be found in the gospel of John. It's the story of Peter when he tells Jesus that he will stand for him, talk about people for him and walk by his side every minute of every day. What happens next? Jesus tells Peter that before a rooster crows, Peter will deny Christ three times and that is exactly what happened.

The story continues (in the book of Acts) when Peter is reminded of his words and goes and preaches to 3,000 people. He tells them about Jesus and the glory of God and, when he's finished, those 3,000 people give their lives to God. Peter, once cried out that he knew nothing of Jesus and had

never heard of him, turned around and boldly spoke about God.

God can take ordinary people like Peter, like you and like me, and use us to do extraordinary things. He used Gideon to battle and defeat an army more than triple the size of his own. He used Peter and John to speak in the name of God and healed a lame man, of 40 years, who was miraculously able to walk.

It's amazing what the Lord does when people like you and me are bold in His name. Have you ever witnessed this kind of boldness in someone else? Have you ever been caught in an act of boldness? If you are looking to be a bolder person, begin praying bold prayers. Begin speaking boldly to others and in front of others. Don't be afraid of saying what you think or seeking God's wisdom in how



to handle situations you find yourself stuck in. Be careful, though, when you pray for boldness. God might have you praying for someone who is struggling with cutting or gossip or some type of sin in the middle of Wal Mart.

Whatever it is, don't be afraid to be a witness. Pray boldly. Act boldly. Don't be afraid to ask God for the impossible in your life. Joshua prayed for the sun to stand still in freeing his people and God stopped the sun for 24 hours, showing off for all the world to see. Go and be bold for God.

## In case you missed the Bleacher Talk outlines...

For two weeks in September and the final week on October 2, we're talking about sin; not just what you do that goes against God and what you don't do that God asks of you... we're talking about the stuff we do when no one is watching. And, in case you missed the outlines to chat with your kids at home, parents here are some questions you can ask to engage your youth throughout the week.

From week 1: September 18—The Sin Factor

*How would you describe your relationship with God? How are you and Him doing today?*

*When God finds you in your sin, what do you do to repent? I have a story like this, it begins... (tell story)*

From week 2: September 28—Sin is not a secret

*What are some hidden sins you struggle with? I struggle with some too; they are... (talk about sins)*

*What do you do to grow closer to God? You wanna know what I do? (tell youth what you do)*

\*\*The purpose of this talk is to relate to your kids in partnering with us to grow in our relationships... find more on the parent page of the youth website at [www.lewinsville.org/youth-parents](http://www.lewinsville.org/youth-parents).

## Breakfast Bar: October 2, 9:30am Youth Center



Our first Breakfast Bar for the youth (grades 7-12) is coming up this month on October 2. Breakfast Bar begins at 9:30am in the Youth Center!

The very popular Breakfast Bar appears on the first Sunday of every month (except for the month of January (Jan 8) and April (Apr 15) and there will not be a Breakfast Bar in February).

The Breakfast Bar is a time for the youth from different classes to gather for fellowship once a month. Items are provided by a different set of parents each month of the students who attend Sunday School. Please be sure, parents, that if you are providing breakfast to have everything set up by 9:30am with food for 10-20 kids. Menu suggestions are listed below to the right of the dinner schedule.

## Dinner Schedule for Youth Fellowship

Youth fellowship dinners are provided by a different set of parents each Sunday evening. Parents, please have your dinner on the bar by 6pm. Dinner is whatever the parents feel like making. providing. Please plan to provide food for 15-25 students.

October 2—Hinton

October 9—Becker

October 16—Foster

October 23—Cochrane

October 30—Robinson



### Suggested Breakfast Bar Menu

Egg and Bacon Casserole  
Fruit Salad  
Waffles/Pancakes  
Bagels/Croissants w/ cream cheese  
Toast w/ butter/jelly  
Scrambled eggs w/bacon/ham  
Cereals-variety  
Danish rolls

### Drinks

Hot cider  
Juice of choice (orange, apple)  
Milk  
Hot Cocoa

# [Reflections] of a leader



## Are your batteries charged?

By Douglas Miller

I used to think that good deeds were things like holding the door open for someone, doing the dishes for my mom, changing the oil on my dad's car for Father's day or taking the garbage out and cleaning my room. Then I got married.

I quickly realized what I thought were good deeds are just ordinary acts of service I can do for someone. Not only that, I also realized that these simple tasks didn't take much out of me, even though I felt like I was running on empty because I spent all my energy doing this one little task. This is when I felt that I wasn't fully charged; I hadn't put my whole heart into each and every task. It sounds like a silly thing to do—to put everything you've got into taking a 5 pound bag of trash

outside to the garbage can. But that isn't what I'm talking about here. I'm talking about where my battery gets charged. I'm talking about the source of my doing something for another person.

If you want to connect with God and with what He is doing in this world, you must keep your spiritual battery charged. Before you can charge your battery, though, you have to make sure everything is in order. It's in your relationship with God; which means looking at your life for any unaddressed sin. Throughout the Bible, you can watch God move in response to the brokenness of His people. God honors our efforts to deal with the sin in our lives.

King David is a great example of this. He not only committed adultery, but he orchestrated a murder as well. He slept with the wife of a soldier named Uriah. When she became pregnant, David ordered Uriah home from war, hoping Uriah would sleep with his wife. He thought if he could get Uriah to get his wife pregnant he could hide the fact that he had gotten her pregnant himself. When Uriah refused the invitation, David had him placed in the heat of a battle where he died.

Psalm 51 was written by King David after the prophet Nathan confronted him with his sin. David confessed his

sin to the Lord, asked God to cleanse him, and then asked not to be kicked out of God's presence. David knew that true joy could only be found when people stay connected to God. And this starts by dealing with your sin and committing to living the kind of life God wants you to live.

Take a moment and read Psalm 51.

Hopefully, you're not dealing with the same kind of sin David dealt with (and on the same level). If you are, connect with God because He desires to have a relationship with you. But remember, David's road to rebellion started with a simple, tempting glance at Uriah's wife while she was bathing. Sin is a spiritual battery killer. The only way to recharge and regain that connection with God is to follow the steps King David took:

1. Be aware of your sin.
2. Confess your sin to God.
3. Enjoy restoring your connection and relationship with God.



**DOUGLAS MILLER** is the Youth Director at LPC. Connect with him on Twitter @dougscottmiller, on Facebook.com/dsm.123.atfirsthand

Sin hurts your closeness with God. If you don't address your sin, you will not reap the full benefit of heaven. If you need help or don't know where to begin, start by asking God. ✚✚✚



This month, we have a few birthdays within our Youth and College Ministry programs.

Michael Ransom is 21 on October 5.

Evan Becker's birthday is October 7th; He'll be 15.

Alice Neldon celebrates #17 on October 17th.

Liz Kenney will be celebrating her 20th birthday on October 19th.

On October 21, we wish Meredith Krieg a Happy 17th Birthday.

Happy Birthday to Burgess Robinson who's 20 on October 23rd.

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