

Dear Parents,

Over the past couple months in our student life groups, we have been in a series all about different kinds of relationships. We have talked about relationships such as friendships, dating relationships, family relationships, and authority relationships. As part of this series, we will be discussing the topic of sexuality. We know that this is a huge topic in our culture today and is something all of us, and especially high school students, have a lot of questions about and interest in. Our goal as a ministry is to clearly present God's design and purpose for our sexuality because we believe it plays a huge role in our understanding of who God is and the type of relationship He wants with us. As people who love our students deeply, our biggest mission is to help them understand what it means and looks like to have a personal relationship with Jesus in every aspect of their lives, and that includes in sexuality. We want the life group context to be a safe place for students to discuss this part of their lives, and in order to prepare our leaders for these conversations, we invited Dr. Juli Slattery to lead a 4.5 hour training with our life group leaders to equip them and give them biblical language to talk about this topic. Dr. Slattery is a clinical psychologist, author, speaker, and the president/co-founder of Authentic Intimacy. She has written multiple books and has a podcast called Java with Juli that we highly recommend you investigate because we believe her books and podcasts could be an incredible resource for you as you navigate this topic with your own kids.

We understand that this is a huge topic to discuss, and we understand you might not wish to have your student involved in these discussions. Please know that we respect that and don't want you to feel any pressure to have them attend. Our desire is to partner with you in helping Jesus makes sense to your student

We will be sending follow up notes about the conversations we will be having over the next few weeks and we highly encourage you as parents to continue these conversations with your students at home. Please reach out with any questions or concerns you may have. We know that raising teenagers is one of the hardest things in the world and we want to come alongside you and help you and encourage you in any way we can.