

Calling all FUSE students! 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders are planning the ToT Town Masquerade Bash for preschoolers. The Masquerade Bash is a costume party for our youngest kids at the church. We provide a non-scary alternative to Halloween with 'imagination stations' that the FUSE and GAP students run. Each station has a biblical theme and is appropriate for preschoolers. At the end of the party there is a puppet show which your student will star in, if he/she wants.

**The Workdays are:**

October 16 from 6-7:30 p.m. (We'll provide pizza since it's right after the Crop Walk) And October 23 from 6-7:30 p.m.

**If you want to be on the PUPPET TEAM:**

October 16 right after church in ToT Town , Noon-2 p.m. We'll provide lunch

October 23 we'll practice for another 30 minutes after the work day-- 7:30-8 p.m.

**The Masquerade is on October 29** in ToT Town from 6-7:30 p.m. You should plan on your student being there to help clean up until 8:30 p.m. *If you are on the Puppet Team:* Be there at 4 p.m. *Everyone else:* Be there at 5 p.m. (please don't be late!!) We will have pizza while we go through a brief training.

**Keep in mind a few things:**

- NO scary, creepy, inappropriate costumes. You will not be allowed to participate if you are not dressed appropriately. If you have questions about your costume, talk to Kate.
- If you want to help with the Masquerade, you **MUST** come to the Workdays. If you want your friends to come to help, they must attend the Workdays. Parents: We'd love for you to help! Email Kate if you'd like to help: [kate@msbchurch.com](mailto:kate@msbchurch.com)

*Kate Mullaney*

Preschool Minister

I hope everyone has had a great start to the school year. Boys and girls life groups have started strong as God has blessed the FUSE ministry with several new students. AND our entire youth ministry (grades 6-12) have been blessed with a new youth minister, Steven Hill, so please welcome Steven whenever you see him. With our growth, I have decided to split the boys Sunday school class which means the FUSE ministry is in need of another Sunday school teacher. So if anyone is interested in teaching Sunday School to boys middle schoolers once or twice per month, please let me know! I also plan to convert the adjoining room to the Wayve Room into an entertainment room for our FUSE students. The Enderbrocks have very generously donated a big screen TV for video games so big thanks to the Enderbrocks!!! I plan to paint this room along with the other boys' Sunday school room and fill them with comfy couches. **Therefore, we are accepting donations of couches and/or love seats so that our FUSE area can be upgraded.**

*Blessings,*

*Brian*

Middle School Minister

## WATCH YOUR WORDS! HELP KIDS STAND UP AGAINST PROFANITY

Compared to other sins, cursing might seem tame. But Scripture takes a strong stand against sins of the tongue. God makes it clear that obscenities and impurities have no place coming out of the mouths of Christ-followers. Unfortunately, Christian kids often struggle just as much with their words as their unchurched peers do. Infractions range from the ubiquitous and casual use of the f-word to rude, suggestive, and vicious references about other people. "Profane" means "to treat something sacred with abuse, irreverence, or contempt." So when kids use the f-word, they treat something sacred (the act of intercourse) with contempt. Try these approaches to tackle profanity:

- **Ask kids to keep a running tally** of the number of profanities they hear during one day at school or one night of TV-watching. Have them report back; then ask them if they were surprised by what they learned.
- **Tell kids the truth.** Research shows that people who curse are respected less in our society and have fewer deep relationships. Cursing also can cause other people to stumble and violates our calling to love our neighbors as ourselves.
- **Challenge kids to use only "prayer" words.** If they wouldn't use the word in conversation with God, then it isn't appropriate in any other context. Give kids alternative attention-grabbing words that can substitute for profanity.

## PONDER THIS

- What do your own words say about your character, your values, and your relationship with God?
- What sins of the tongue are the most challenging for you? for your teenagers?
- How might your family members be able to hold one another accountable for how they speak?





## Going Deeper

By Jasper Rains

At [SimplyYouthMinistry.com](http://SimplyYouthMinistry.com), Jasper Rains offers suggestions for ways that adults can use their words wisely, especially in tricky situations:

**Clear the air.** People-pleasers don't want to rock the boat. This is a major way the enemy gets a foothold in relationships. We tend to bottle up our anger until we blow. If you don't lovingly confront an issue right away, it will only fuel anger until you confront in frustration.

Often, things that eventually become major issues start with bad communication and continue to build. Put concerns on the table as soon as they happen. That clears up misunderstandings and opens the

door to speedy reconciliation.

**Speak less.** This may seem like a contradiction to the first point, but sometimes when we're stressed we tend to be too confrontational. We want to put people in their place. We often end up in arguments that only contribute to the problem and don't preemptively lead us to healing.

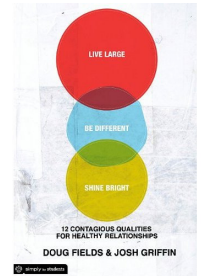
Sometimes the best thing to say is nothing at all. Prayerfully seek when it's right to confront and when it's right to be silent.

**Stop gossiping.** Even if you dress something up as a "prayer request," talking to others about a frustrating situation shouldn't be your only step. Instead, go to the source of the

issue rather than speaking behind other people's backs.

A good rule is to share frustrations with only one person, such as an accountability partner. This will help you release some steam but will also give an opportunity for this person to hold you accountable to making things right while they pray for the situation as a whole.

In *Live Large, Be Different, Shine Bright* (Simply Youth Ministry), Doug Fields and Joshua Griffin explore 12 contagious qualities for healthy relationships, including communication.



## TIPS >>>>

Media editor and screenwriter Bryan Belknap offers these insights into language:

- **Cursing is akin to unbelief** because it denies Jesus' presence in all things, at all times. Why is speech that's unacceptable for Jesus okay for us?
- **It's impossible to unconditionally love someone using foul language.** Cursing does nothing to communicate grace.
- **Cursing violates the spirit of humility.** Words are a barometer of character and can show an unwillingness to submit to authority.
- **Cursing undermines integrity.** When kids use swear words in certain situations but not others, they're teaching themselves to play fast-and-loose with their morals.



# MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

## MAINSTREAM MUSIC



### THRICE

**Background:** This Orange County band has never been labeled a Christian band, despite the fact that lead singer Dustin Kensrue is a staunch Christian and his lyrics are often straight from the Bible. Their songs deal with topics such as Peter's dark night of betrayal, Christ's invitation for us to take rest in him, and how earth isn't our real home. The music is as deep and thoughtful as the lyrics. Kensrue recently became worship leader at the O.C. branch of Mars Hill Church.

**Albums:** *Major/Minor* (2011), *The Alchemy Index* (2007), *Vheissu* (2005)

**What Thrice Says:** Regarding where he gets inspiration, singer Dustin Kensrue says, "Definitely the Bible; I draw from that a lot. Usually not as the starting point for things, but it is very much where I am rooted. I feel like it speaks to a lot of things.... I'm constantly inspired and challenged by reading it."

**Explore:** Check out Thrice on Spotify or on their mySpace page at [www.myspace.com/thrice](http://www.myspace.com/thrice).

## CHRISTIAN MUSIC



### FAMILY FORCE 5

**Background:** This crunk band incorporates punk, hardcore, R&B, dance, electronica, funk, and rap metal into party songs. It's as crazy as it sounds, but the songs are hits. Three band members are brothers. They've been criticized for using almost no overt references to God or their faith, though they do maintain positive lyrics.

**Albums:** *III* (2011), *Dance or Die* (2008), *Business Up Front/Party In the Back* (2006)

**What Family Force 5 Says:** Regarding the band's Christian image, singer Solomon Olds says, "They want Sandi Patty all over again. They want Amy Grant.... We want to make music that is for God, but at the same time, we want to make music that people enjoy and that they're not turned off by."

**Explore:** Check out their videos at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSkzHFUheXA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zSkzHFUheXA).

## MOVIE

**Movie:** *The Three Musketeers*

**Genre:** Action, Adventure, Romance

**Rating:** PG-13

**Synopsis:** A spirited young man named d'Artagnan joins forces with three Musketeers who have rebelled against their order and try to take down the evil forces threatening their land.

**Our Take:** Despite director Paul W.S. Anderson's history of the *Resident Evil* movies, the action here will likely be closer to the recent *Pirates of the Caribbean* films—epic action with a few laughs, but nothing too offensive.

**Movie:** *Real Steel*

**Genre:** Action, Drama

**Rating:** PG-13

**Synopsis:** In this futuristic boxing movie, Hugh Jackman is a washed-up ex-fighter. He makes a comeback as a trainer for a huge battling robot—and draws close to his estranged young son in the process.

**Our Take:** The premise sounds ridiculous, but this movie looks like it has heart to accompany the special effects.

For more media discussions and ideas, go to [www.MinistryandMedia.com](http://www.MinistryandMedia.com).

## VIDEO GAME



**Batman: Arkham City**—This is a sequel to one of the best games to come out in recent years. The first game was a blast, with a wide-open world and gameplay that was a super-fun mixture of stealth and fighting. The female villains Harley Quinn and Poison Ivy wore skimpy outfits, so if they make a reappearance, that would be the biggest red flag in an otherwise teenage-friendly game.

**Dark Souls**—This sequel to the cult hit *Demon's Souls* will likely be very similar to that dark, violent action game. The gimmick here is that the game is incredibly hard, and there are no places to save within levels; players die and go all the way back to the beginning. This one isn't for the kiddos.

# October 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5-6 p.m. Kids Choir Practice			7-8:30 p.m. Girls Life Group	7-8:30 p.m. Boys Life Group		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
5-6 p.m. Kids Choir Practice			7-8:30 p.m. Girls Life Group	7-8:30 p.m. Boys Life Group		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Noon-2 p.m. Puppet team practice 5-6 p.m. Kids Choir Practice 6-7:30 p.m. Masquerade Work Day			7-8:30 p.m. Girls Life Group	7-8:30 p.m. Boys Life Group		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
2:45-6 p.m. Crop Walk 5-6 p.m. Kids Choir Practice 6-7:30 p.m. Masquerade Work Day	10 a.m. Preschool/ Home School Trip to Sweet Berry Farm Pumpkin Patch		7-8:30 p.m. Girls Life Group	7-8:30 p.m. Boys Life Group		4-5 p.m. Puppet team practice 6-7 p.m. ToT Town Masquerade Bash
30	31					
Noon King's Daughters to Camp Peniel 5-6 p.m. Kids Choir Practice						

## OCTOBER FUSE MINISTRY EVENTS

**Oct 6, 13, 20, 27** **BOYS LIFE GROUP.** 7-8:30 p.m.—*The Rock*— Students may come early at 6:30 p.m. for fellowship Led by Brian Mullaney. "Fuel Ignited." This month our discussion focuses on family: purpose, how to deal with conflict within the family, and obeying parents.

**Oct 5, 12, 19, 26.** **GIRLS LIFE GROUP.** 7-8:30 p.m. —*Kenagy's home:409 Deepwood* —Students may come early at 6:30 p.m. for fellowship Led by Karen Kenagy. "Faith 4 Life: Finding Your Identity."

**Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30** **KIDS CHOIR PRACTICE.** 5-6 p.m. —*Promiseland room*—Elementary kids & Middle school students who want to help Middle schoolers who want to come help during our children's choir for a Christmas musical to be performed on December 11, talk to John Sullivan. He would love your help!

**Oct 16, 29** **MASQUERADE PUPPET TEAM PRACTICE.** 12-2 (10/16), 4-5 (10/29).—*ToT Town*— GAP (5th grade kids) GAP kids who want to be in the puppet show as part of the Preschool Masquerade Bash, email Kate@msbchurch.com and show up at the practices! :-)

**Oct 16, 23** **MASQUERADE BASH WORK DAYS.** 6-7:30 P.M.—*the Wayve*— GAP (5th grade kids) & FUSE (6th-8th grade kids) Our service project for October is the Preschool Masquerade Bash (costume party). GAP and FUSE kid run it completely. You MUST come to the workdays to participate in the Bash. We'll have pizza on Oct 23 after the Crop Walk. If your friends want to come help, they need to be at the work days too.

**Oct 24** **PRESCHOOL/HOME SCHOOL TRIP TO SWEET BERRY FARM.** 9:00 a.m.-Noon—*ToT Town*— Preschool & Homeschool kids Our preschoolers and home school kids are taking a trip out to Sweet Berry Farm in Marble Falls. We'll paint pumpkins, stuff a scarecrow, go on a hay ride and go through the corn maze. Bring a sack lunch from home and we'll enjoy lunch together. We'll meet at the church at **8:30 a.m.** and then carpool from there (our start time for our field trip is 10 a.m.) If you are taking your own car, please get there by 9:45 a.m. The price is \$5 per parent and child with a family maximum of \$15. **PLEASE RSVP IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO COME BY NOON on FRIDAY, OCT 21 BECAUSE WE HAVE TO PRESENT ONE CHECK AS A GROUP.**

**Oct 29** **MASQUERADE BASH.** 5-8:30 P.M.—*ToT Town*— GAP (5th grade kids) & FUSE (6th-8th grade kids) Wear a non scary costume and come at 5 p.m. for pizza and a brief training. Plan to stay until about 8:30 p.m. to help clean up and reset the rooms.

**Oct 30** **KING'S DAUGHTERS TRIP TO CAMP PENIEL.** Noon-5 p.m.—*Camp Peniel*— Moms & Daughters Elementary and up Moms and Daughters come find out what KD's is all about! It is a discipleship program for girls that meets once a month. There are books to work through and fun activities and outings. We are going out to Camp Peniel for an awards ceremony and some camp fun! We'll carpool out to Camp Peniel after church gets out on Sunday and arrive back by 5 p.m.