

Spot Light on the

-Romans 13:12

KNIGHTS

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Teaching Teenagers: A Life and Death Situation

"I say to you, my friends, don't fear those who kill the body, and after that can do nothing more. But I will show you the one to fear: Fear him who has authority to throw people into hell after death. Yes, I say to you, this is the one to fear! Aren't five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten in God's sight. Indeed, the hairs of your head are all counted. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows." - Luke 12:4-7

My responses to situations have changed over time. I used to rush into situations that were "emergencies." Now I am far more reserved and somewhat hesitant. Generally the emergencies are hardly life and death situations. Working in an arena of teenagers has taught me that teens are fairly resilient. While becoming more hesitant, my heart has not become complacent for concern. I generally worry very little for the issues of the day. Teenagers make mistakes. That is the expectation, not the exception. The day we assume teenagers will not do stupid stuff is the day we are no longer proactive and are in Big trouble. Our job is to help them discern. Often the best training ground for discernment is in the face of stupid, and we better be ready for those teachable moments. The big picture is: Discernment is foundational to Life and Death. Teenagers need guidance to help them determine the foundations of their decisions. Are their decisions built on a foundation of objective right and wrong (Jesus) or on whimsical feelings, or repercussions from taco bell? Jesus makes it quite clear that He wishes to be the source of our decision making. Philippians 1:9-10 states, "I pray this: that your love will keep on growing in knowledge and every kind of discernment, so that you may approve the things that are superior and may be pure and blameless in the day of Christ." ("Day of Christ" = Life) This is our mission and ministry.

Each student that comes in the door at MLHS is eternally important, and we wish nothing more than to solidify the faith of all our students that they can effectively share that faith in any and every arena. A superficial Jesus-training will not equip a student to make disciples in today's culture. Today's culture is "rather" hostile to the values, beliefs, and motions of the Christian faith. We better be ready – 1 Peter 3:15. This is serious stuff. If you disagree, i would suggest you may need to evaluate the immediacy of "I am coming soon." This statement applies to you and toyour neighbor. It is a Life or Death deal. Let's be doers and get busy – James 1:22!

Amen - Come Lord Jesus!!!

Paul Steinhaus, Principal

<u>Mission Statement</u>
Preparing students for discipleship until **Christ's** return.



Spring

Rummage & Bake Sale

Thursday, March 31st

4 p.m.-8 p.m.

Friday, April 1st

8 a.m.—8 p.m.

Saturday, April 2nd

8 a.m.-noon



See auction preview pictures at www.martinlutherhs.com.