



Connecting with the “Growing” Kids

Description

Growing kids are exactly who we want our “No Way” “Not Interested” “Checking Things Out” and “Whatever” kids to become. These are students growing in their relationships with Jesus. Growing kids have put their trust in Jesus and allowing him to lead their lives. The below list is not exhaustive, but here are some characteristics of a Growing Kid:

- Has some regular personal time with God: reading scripture on their own, praying on their own, taking steps to grow on their own.
- Has some form of accountability: seeking wise people for guidance.
- Is generous with their resources, time, and talents.
- Inviting others to RSC and looking for ways to care for them.
- Serving: whether it be in RSC, Ridge Kids, or somewhere else in the church.

Goal with the Growing Kid

Our goals with growing kids are to build relationships with them, help them take next steps with God, and equip them to live out their faith day to day. We also need to help them begin to discover how God has wired them and give them opportunities to serve others.

Who are our Growing Kids?

For lack of a better term, these are our “good” students. They aren’t perfect, but they’re seeking after God and genuinely want to follow him.

How do you help Growing Kids take their next step(s)?

There are two main things a Growing Kid needs...

1. An adult(s) or leaders who are willing to help them continue to grow, offer accountability, encouragement, and development.
2. An opportunity to serve.
 - a. “Do Nothing Alone.” If you are responsible for something, say checking in, invite a growing kid to do so. If you are responsible for a game, is there a way to help invite a student to lead a piece with you? If you are running media, why not show a student how to do this? As they learn the basic skills, begin to hand leadership away.

- b. We are developing a HS Student Leadership team that has been going through a ministry curriculum. We have begun to give them leadership responsibility and now are even giving them there very own night to lead as an opportunity to help growing kids become “looking for ministry kids.” We have liked what we have seen in this so far and looking at how to beta this in middle school.