

# **WHAT WE HOPE FOR**

**When your Relig student is a graduating senior, what impact do you dream their Relig experience will have had on their life?"**

**1. They'll have a heart for the poor and hurting.**

They'll have the heart of Jesus- who spent almost all his time and ministry energy on desperate people.

**Relig:** We welcome strangers and outcasts. Adult & student leaders model

**2. They'll know how to communicate with God intimately.**

Prayer is like breathing. Your day is a running conversation with God.

**Relig:** If prayer is just a bookend at the start and end of your regular activities, we may be teaching kids to compartmentalize it. Treat God as a member of your group- ask for his input and participation as often as you do others in the group.

**3. They'll be a veteran servant and outreach participant.**

Kids grow into a deeper faith commitment, through intense action: work camps, mission trips, and outreach projects transform them from ministry consumers into ministers.

**Relig:** We offer many diverse ministry opportunities. We work with organizations that do the logistics well so kids are freed to minister and grow.

**4. They'll know how to shoulder real ministry responsibilities.**

Involved in teaching or leading, kids learn at a deeper level.

**Relig:** Brainstorm all our needed leadership functions, plug kids in somewhere.

**5. They'll have many memories of their parents' involvement in their youth ministry activities.**

Parents' impact on their children's faith is dominant.

**Relig:** We are motivated to serve and equip parents for ministry to their own kids

**6. They'll understand bible basics well enough to defend their faith.**

**Relig:** Include the scriptures more frequently in all we do.

**7. They'll be captain of their ongoing relationship with God.**

They won't depend just on church activities, or parents' input for their growth.

**Relig:** Offering training in personal, spiritual disciplines as well as church activities.

**8. They'll be clearly "in the world" but "not of it."**

Their "gospel truth" filter kicks in when making decisions.

**Relig:** Using popular culture as a ministry hook we build culture-influencing Catholics. We start discussions using films, songs, news, and TV shows.

**9. They'll appreciate the sacraments.**

They'll experience and treasure Jesus' saving grace through the celebration of the sacraments.

**Relig:** We develop youth's understanding of the celebration of the sacraments.

**10. They'll believe that they are the Church.**

They'll be motivated for lifelong participation in Jesus' saving work through the Church. They will have an appreciation of their participation in the Communion of Saints, the Body of Christ.

**Relig:** we motivate students to participate regularly in parish life.

**11. They'll have a moral code to follow for life.**

The commandments & scriptures will guide their decision making process. They will know what is the right way to live that will not damage their souls.

**Relig:** We are clear in sharing the teachings of the Church; the moral code that Catholics follow. Students have clear appreciation for the applications for their lives now & in the future.

**12. They'll know the love and mercy of God.**

They will value the reality of reconciliation with God, and will extend this mercy and forgiveness to others in their lives.

**Relig:** We manifest and teach the love and mercy of God in our interacting with youth. We offer them opportunities for healing & reconciliation