



Teams are Fired Up About the Awana Adult Challenge

In the spirit of friendly (at least we hope it's friendly) competition, teams participating in this year's Awana Adult Challenge have worked hard to memorize the Scripture passages that will place their name on the coveted AAC trophy. There are 12 teams vying for first place in the competition.

For those of you that haven't heard about The AAC yet (where have you been?), the premise of the game is simple: each week there is a scripture passage that must be memorized verbatim, including the scripture reference. Each member of the team must repeat the verse to one of the designated Awana Clubbers. If the team member gets the verse correct, the Clubber signs the back of their "Scripture Card". One point is awarded to that team for each member that correctly recites the verse within the date range for that verse, and a bonus point is awarded if all team members recite the verse correctly .

While the adults have been studying hard to remember their verses, the Awana kids have enjoyed watching the battle ensue and participating in their role as the judges. They are *mighty* strict in their role, as well. Those in the competition better be sure they haven't left out a word or misquoted the scripture reference.

Top 6 Teams

(at the time this article was written)

1. **No Pressure**— Steve Graves, Chris Babb, Mary Dowden, Haley Kraemer (12 points)
2. **Roger's Raiders**— Roger Kraemer, Courtney Kraemer, Christy Barnes, Lydia Voigt (11 points)
3. **The Winners** — Amy Lewis, Victoria Ledet, Marsha Siddle, Suzanne Wunstell (10 points)
4. **(Unnamed)**-Cindy Graves, Sharon Bergeron, Laura Gray, Charlene Patrick (9 points)
5. **The Two-Edged Swords**— Mike Gray, Hank Babin, Jennifer Bouly, Amy Clemmons (9 points)
6. **Scripture Warriors**—Bill Hall, Melonye Hall, Dianne Kirkpatrick, Claudette Smith (9 points)

Overall, the challenge is accomplishing it's most important task—filling our minds and hearts with God's word. After all, "... *the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow ; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*" (Hebrews 4:12) What is the attitude of your heart?

A Note from Steve...

As we finish the Spiritual Health Check-up Series, I have a few reflective thoughts. I hope and pray that God uses our time of making parallels with our physical conditions and spiritual conditions for long-term spiritual growth and health in our lives. We typically only think about our health when something is wrong - physically or spiritually - but I hope that we'll continue to consider our health in order that we might be more healthy. May we feed ourselves with a healthy, balanced diet of spiritual nourishment. May God give us the ability to hear and tune in to God's voice and vision to see the eternal in our daily lives. May our hearts be free of disease and wounds and able to fully love God and others. And may we continue to grow to be more like Christ and reproduce by sharing Christ's love. Let's not let this simply be like an annual check-up that is typically forgotten within a week or two, but

let's strive to live and apply the principles we've discussed through this series and its analogies.

As you know, we have been partnering with Live Oak Baptist Church in Pointe-aux-Chenes over the past year to help them repair the church and Pastor Tom Bellon's home next door. The home has been raised and the process of restoring the interior is underway. At the end of this month, we'll have more teams coming to work on the home. Before they arrive, there are a few projects that need to be completed in order to prepare for the work the teams will do. We will take a group down on October 17. All skill levels are welcome and needed. If you are able to come with us that Saturday or if you are able to go individually another day, please let me know.

In Christ,



Worship and Media

Authenticity: Conforming to reality and therefore worthy of trust, reliance, or belief. Truthfulness of origins, attributions, commitments, sincerity, and intentions.

Have you ever sung the words to a song or hymn in Sunday morning worship without really paying attention to what they say? Have you ever chosen not to sing a song because of its style, or because you feel uncomfortable with what they confess? I think that we have all been guilty of each scenario. In all cases our worship should be authentic. The words we sing should reflect our hearts, or at least be a confession of what we would like our hearts to say. When we sing words in God's presence, we should be truthful. When tempted not to sing, or if your mind wanders from the meaning of the words, ask yourself this question: Does what I am saying (singing) match the confession of my heart? If not, why? Are the words worthy of being spoken to God? Are they not a confession of my heart right now? Are they a confession of where I would like my heart to be? Or, am I just not focused on Christ at this moment?

These questions will be helpful. The Bible says....May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer. (Psalm 19:14). Strive to focus your words to match the confession of your heart daily. If you need to refocus your heart to reflect a closer walk with God, change the meditation of your heart, and the confession of your mouth. You'll find that your heart will follow.

Your life will be an authentic representation of Christ as you walk with Him.





Children's Ministry



Jesus was passionate about preaching to and teaching people. He understood the urgency of their need to experience God's saving love. He called upon rich and poor, educated and uneducated, to be His helpers, and when he did, they immediately left what they were doing and went with him without hesitation. They really didn't even know what they were getting into; they had to learn from Jesus as they went. When he sent them out, he instructed them to depend completely on God's provision. Now that's obedience!

Jesus still calls on followers from all walks of life to be His helpers. He expects us to share the gospel with that same urgency and to depend on His provision. Just like the Twelve, we don't have to know everything up front, we can learn as we go.

At Mulberry, you have many wonderful opportunities to experience the blessing of sharing Jesus with a child. How about teaching Sunday School? How about joining us at Awana? You can help our little ones learn about worshipping through music in preschool choir on Sunday evenings. Perhaps you have a heart for adolescents and teens. Have you considered all of the challenges the youth of today face? We have tremendous potential for growth in our youth ministry. Help us continue to build our youth program!

Like the first disciples, let's all show Jesus our willingness to respond and show our children how important they are by immediately answering His call to serve!

In Christ,

Deacons to Serve for October

Dud Smith, Chad Walker

**Deacons' Meeting
October 4th, 7:15PM**

www.mulberrychurch.org

View upcoming events ~ Listen to sermons ~ Access Membership Directory ~ Listen to Radio Worship ~ View archived newsletters ~ Contact us ~ Get to know your church

COME CELEBRATE WITH US...

Pastor Grave's 3rd Anniversary

There will be a church-wide luncheon sponsored by the Deacons on Sunday, October 18th immediately following Worship Service. We hope you and your family will join us.

Mulberry Ministry Team

Church members: Ministers-at-large

Steve Graves, Pastor

steve.graves@mulberrychurch.org

Chris Babb, Minister of Music and Media

chris.babb@mulberrychurch.org

Mary Dowden, Children's Minister

mary.dowden@mulberrychurch.org

Charlene Patrick, Children's Day Out Director

charlene.patrick@mulberrychurch.org

Haley Kraemer, Secretary

info@mulberrychurch.org

Mulberry Baptist Church

A Place for Life!

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3:16

THE NUMBERS OF HOPE

Join Us November 1st as the
Sanctuary Choir Presents

***3:16: The Numbers
of Hope***

Deacon Nominations

We will soon be mailing to you a list of eligible nominees for 2010 deacon nominations.

Anyone that has been a member for a full year is eligible to be nominated. IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO BE INCLUDED on the list of eligible persons, please contact the church office by phone (876-3204) or e-mail at info@mulberrychurch.org.

September Statistics

Budget Receipts

Attendance

Date	Amount	Sunday School	AM Worship
09-06-09	\$4,455.00	57	105
09-13-09	\$4,795.00	70	111
09-20-09	\$7,519.00	69	108
09-27-09	\$1,737.00	78	154

Budget Goal YTD: \$279,931.86

Budget Receipts YTD: \$226,736.39

Children's Handbells



Begins Oct. 25th
at 6:30PM