

D-Now 2025: The Pause October 24-26, 2025 Parent Packet

Welcome!

We're so excited for your student to join us for "The Pause", a Discipleship-Now weekend designed to help students hit pause on the noise of life and prioritize their walk with the Lord. Through largegroup worship, small-group discussions, and intentional fellowship, our goal is to see students grow in faith and community.



General Schedule

This is a broad overview. A detailed timeline will be given to students at check-in.

- -Rec (traveling scavenger hunt)
 -Host Homes/Small Group

Saturday, October 25

- -Large Group Worship/Teaching
- -Mission Project at Maryville Jr. High
- -Large group Rec
- -Small Group Discussion
- -Smores at the Moore's

Sunday, October 26

- -Breakfast at Church
- -worship service and life groups with church family



Host Homes & Guidelines

Students will stay in host homes grouped by age and gender. Addresses will be provided directly to parents upon request.

Guidelines for Students:

- I. Represent Jesus well in all situations
- 2. Be respectful of the host family and their home. We are guests.
- Follow any house rules given by your host family.
- 4. Stay with your assigned group—no switching homes.
- 5. Help with clean-up and leave the home better than you found it.
- 6. Be present and involved in all aspects of the event, especially small groups!



Packing List

Please make sure your student packs:

- I. Bible, notebook, and pen
- 2. Toiletries (toothbrush, deodorant, shampoo, etc.)
- 3. Sleeping bag/blanket & pillow
- 4. Towel & washcloth
- 5. Casual clothes for the weekend (layers recommended)
- 6. Clothes for mission work (we will be painting)
- 7. Pajamas & appropriate sleepwear
- 8. Shoes for indoor and outdoor activities (recommend closed toed shoes)
- 9. Any necessary medications (to be listed on medical form)
- IO. No cellphones! (See FAQs on page 7 for details)



What is D-Now?

D-Now (Discipleship Now) is a weekend retreatstyle event focused on helping students grow in their relationship with Christ through worship, Bible study, small groups, and intentional fellowship. Students stay in host homes with their peers and participate in group sessions at the church throughout the weekend.

Who can attend The Pause?

All students in grades 6-12 are invited to participate. Friends and guests are welcome as long as they register and complete the necessary forms.

What does the cost cover?

The registration fee includes all meals from Friday dinner through Sunday breakfast, all teaching materials, activities, and a D-Now t-shirt.



Where will my student be staying?

Students are divided into host homes by age and gender. Each host home is a hosted by a trusted church family that has completed our background check and approval process.

Addresses will be provided directly to parents upon request.

Who will be supervising my student? Each group will have trusted adult leaders staying with them in host homes and attending all sessions.

How are meals handled? What if my student has specific diet requirements?

Meals are provided by the church and host homes beginning with Friday dinner and ending with Sunday breakfast. Please indicate any dietary restrictions during registration so we can make necessary accommodations





What should my student bring?

Students should bring their Bible, notebook, pen, toiletries, sleeping bag or bedding, towel, and comfortable clothes. A full packing list is provided in this packet.

What items should my student leave at home?

Please leave behind anything distracting or inappropriate for a church event—this includes gaming systems, expensive electronics, weapons, tobacco, or anything illegal. We encourage students to minimize phone use to stay fully engaged.

What is the policy for cellphones?

D-Now is a cell phone free event. Students are asked to leave their cell phones at home when they attend. For emergencies, we will provide your student's leader's cell phone numbers. In extreme cases, cell phones are permitted but must be "checked-in" to a leader for the duration of the event. All cases must be approved by Luke.



What if my student has medication or medical needs?

Any medications or medical concerns should be listed on the medical release form. Medications should be clearly labeled and given to a leader if assistance is needed for administration.

What happens in case of an emergency?

Emergency contact numbers for leaders and staff will be available at check-in. Parents will be contacted immediately if a situation arises.

Emergency protocols are covered by the medical release form.

Will students attend church on Sunday?

Yes! The weekend concludes with a Sunday morning worship service at Victory Baptist Church, where families are encouraged to attend. Students will be dismissed after the service.



Can my student come late or leave early?

We ask that students plan to attend the entire weekend to get the full experience. If there's an unavoidable conflict, please contact the youth pastor in advance to arrange check-in or check-out times.

<u>How can I stay updated during the</u> <u>weekend?</u>

We'll post general updates and photos on the church's student ministry social media pages. Parents can also contact leaders directly if needed.

How can I pray for the weekend?

Pray that students' hearts will be open to the Word, that leaders will have wisdom, and that lasting spiritual growth will come from our time together.

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Parent Involvement at Home

We believe discipleship doesn't end when students leave the church or their small groups—it continues at home. Parents play the most important role in shaping a student's faith, and our goal is to partner with you to help your teenager grow spiritually long after D-Now is over.

After the Weekend

The conversations that follow are often where the information learned takes root. Included in this packet, you'll find parent education resources that outline what students are learning during D-Now. These materials will help you understand the teaching focus and give you discussion prompts to continue the conversation at home. Our prayer is that D-Now will not only impact students for a weekend—but strengthen entire families for a lifetime of faith.



The Pause Small Group Session I

The first small group session was entitled, "Pressing Pause," and focused on Mark 1:32-38 and Mark 6:45-47.

The point of the lesson was that your student would understand that God wants to use his or her life to make a major impact on this world, but that this will never happen unless he or she learns to "press pause."

Next Steps...

As you go through the week, look for opportunities for your family to "press pause." This could be taking a few minutes to turn off the TV, turn down the music, and just spend some time praying together as a family.

If this sounds foreign, it's probably a sign that you're like most families and are super busy!
But, learning to press pause to cultivate a relationship with God is something that will be most effectively taught through modeling. It starts with you!

Help your student make a list of things that distract him or her from making time to press pause (TV, movies, internet, etc.). Brainstorm ways that you might help your student minimize some of these distractions in order that he or she might make the time to consistently press pause to seek God in prayer and Bible study.



The Pause Small Group Session 2

The second small group session was entitled, "The Purpose of Prayer" and focused on Matthew 6: 9-13. The point of the session was twofold:

I.That your student would grasp the extreme importance of prayer in developing and maintaining a relationship with God,

2.And that he or she would learn how to pray to God.

Next Steps...

Make the time to share with your student about your relationship with God, specifically the role that prayer plays.

It would be a good conversation for your family to have over a meal together.

Be open and let your student learn from your relationship with God.

Don't be afraid to talk about any questions you may have about prayer and your prayer relationship with God.

Take some time to pray through the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) with your student.

Ask your student if he or she remembers how this prayer can be used as a model in our own communication with God.

The Pause Small Group Session 3

The third small group session, entitled, "Prioritizing Scripture," explored Bible study as the heart of The Pause and focused on Psalm II9:97-IO4. The point of this session was to help students go deeper in their knowledge of God by applying the Bible study techniques learned in this session.

Next Steps ...

Take some time to study a passage of Scripture along with your student this week.

Allow him or her to teach you the two ways in which he or she learned to study the Bible.

Share with your student some of your favorite passages of Scripture and how these verses have impacted you.

Help your student plan a specific time during their day to press pause to seek God through prayer and Bible reading.



The Pause Small Group Session 4

The fourth small group session was entitled, "Pressing Play," and focused on 2 Corinthians 5: 17-20. The point of the session was to lead students to embrace their mission of being God's messengers of the reconciliation that Christ offers to all people.

Next Steps...

Talk with your student about ways that he or she can be on mission with God in his or her world (school, sports teams, neighborhood, church, etc.).

Share with your student a time that God used you in the life of someone around you to make a difference for Him. Pray that God will use your student as a missionary in the places where He is sending him or her this week.



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Thank you!

Thank you for allowing us to partner with you in your student's spiritual growth! We are excited to see how God will work in their hearts during The Pause. Your prayers, encouragement, and involvement at home are vital to helping students apply what they learn and continue growing in their faith. We look forward to an unforgettable weekend of discipleship, fellowship, and worship—together as a church family!