

HIZ KIDZ NEWZ

SPRING 2018

The 99

BY MISS ASHLEY



Many times I've heard the parable of the lost sheep. It paints a picture of a shepherd leaving behind a herd of 99 in order to find the one lost sheep. I must confess, that there have been moments that I've thought to myself that the Shepherd is abandoning the 99 and is caring more for one lost sheep than for his whole flock. I'm sure none of you think that way and you're much more spiritually minded than I am, but I am being honest that when I read about this parable, and similarly the one about the prodigal son, my heart goes out for the faithful that remain behind. Although I am grateful that the Shepherd pursues the one lost sheep, showing that every life matters, sometimes I think about how he abandons the others. However, one night the Holy Spirit revealed to me that in this story not only is our Good Shepherd showing an act of love for the one wayward sheep, He's also loving the other 99 at the same time when He leaves them. When the Shepherd pursues the lost sheep, the message to the remaining 99 is loud and clear: "If any of you are lost or harmed, I will come for you. I will not abandon you; Should you wander off and lose your way, I'll search for you; If a wild beast enters the flock to cause you harm, I will protect you." Just think for a moment if the Shepherd made the logical choice to cut His losses of one of His flock, and instead focus that energy to the ones that remained. He would be teaching the 99 that if they wander off or if they are attacked, then it's over for them. They would live in continual hopeless despair, knowing, that at any moment, if they are attacked or if they should stray in the slightest, there's no coming back. You see, when our Good Shepherd makes the choice to come to the rescue of one who is lost or injured, not only is He displaying a tremendous act of love for the lost, but also for those who aren't. His actions aren't careless or unwise, but quite intentional and deliberate. He's reminding us all that He believes we're worth fighting for. I don't know about you, but I'm grateful that we have a Good Shepherd who loves us beyond our own comprehension.



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BREAKING THROUGH KIDFEST 2018

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE REGISTERED TO ATTEND THIS YEAR'S KIDFEST EVENT, WE WILL BE LEAVING THE CHURCH AT 10:00 AM ON 5/4 AND WILL RETURN THE EVENING OF 5/6.

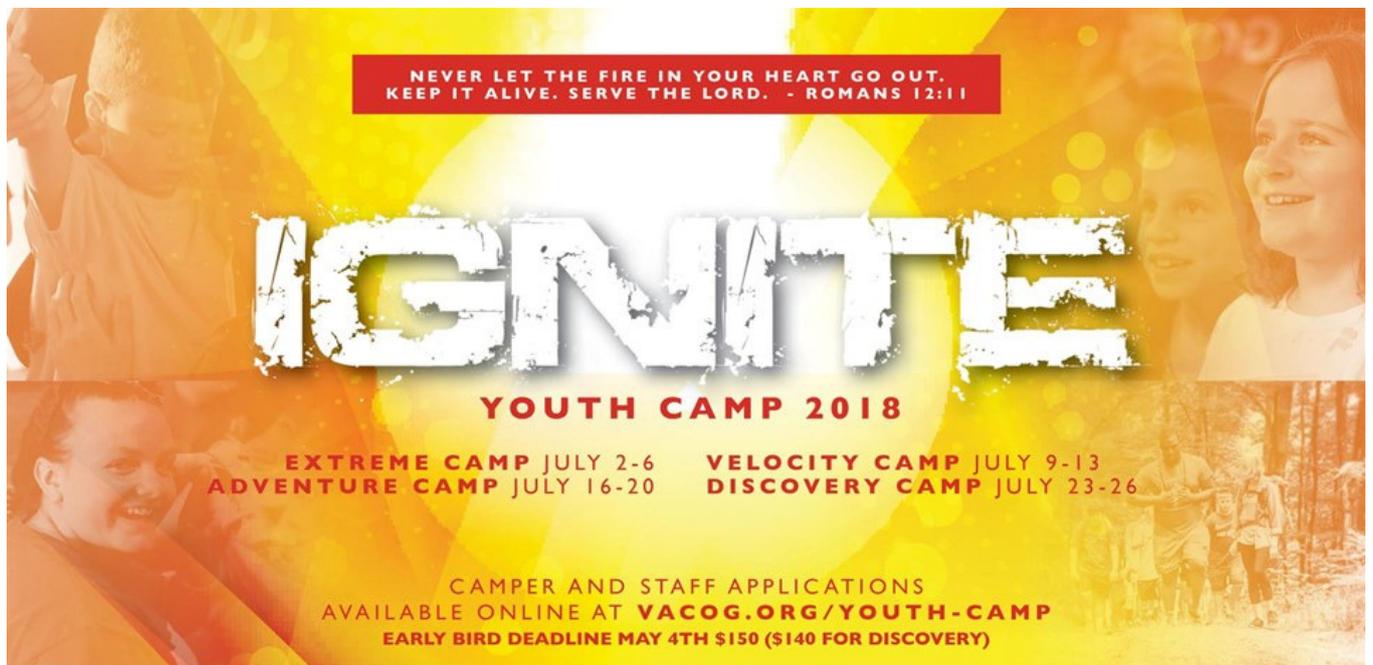
Late Registration for Girl's Jam is still available! See Pastor Ashley for more details.



GIRLS JAMBOREE 2018
MAY 19 | 9AM - 4PM

*Let the words of my mouth
be praise to you, O Lord, my
Rock and my Redeemer. Psalm 19:14*

JESUS, KING OF MY HEART



**NEVER LET THE FIRE IN YOUR HEART GO OUT.
KEEP IT ALIVE. SERVE THE LORD. - ROMANS 12:11**

IGNITE

YOUTH CAMP 2018

EXTREME CAMP JULY 2-6	VELOCITY CAMP JULY 9-13
ADVENTURE CAMP JULY 16-20	DISCOVERY CAMP JULY 23-26

CAMPER AND STAFF APPLICATIONS
AVAILABLE ONLINE AT VACOG.ORG/YOUTH-CAMP
EARLY BIRD DEADLINE MAY 4TH \$150 (\$140 FOR DISCOVERY)

**Early registration ends May 4th for Ignite youth camps.
Complete your online registration today!**

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