

FAN THE FLAME

Last Friday, our middle school students had a special day of worship, hearing from talented keynote speakers, attending breakout sessions, and enjoying snacks with their friends. This annual spiritual life conference, hosted by WVCS, is called Fan the Flame.

There's something profoundly special that happens when we come together as a team to fan the flame of faith in the hearts of our students. Watching our Middle School unite in worship, prayer, and testimony was a beautiful reminder of the power we have in Christ to heal broken hearts and set captives free. We witnessed God's transformative power at work.



Our event hosts kicked off this event with energy and fun! They led the students in an energetic icebreaker game and later led the teachers in a funny competition on stage. Our worship team had prepared a beautiful playlist that led the students into worship, and the lyrics—"I lean not on my own understanding, my life is in the hand of the Maker of heaven"—were the perfect reminder of where our trust should always lie.

Our first keynote speaker was Sargent Stacy Lim from the LAPD, who shared her testimony with our students. Her near-death experience captivated the attention of the students and adults alike, and we were grateful for God's provisions on her life. "She overcame because of her faith in God," Angie said, reminding us that victory in life comes not from our understanding and strength but from trusting God's purposes. Sargent Lim's testimony reminded us of the incredible truth that God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things. Stacy's words about her childhood, her family, her humble view of herself, and the fact that God isn't here to work out our plans, rather our value is found in being chosen by God, and allowing Him to use us as He wills.





Our second keynote speaker was Pastor MJ, the head pastor from Shepherd Church East Valley. We were blessed to hear Pastor MJ's words that reminded all of us that we receive our courage from God. As we reflect on his closing message, let's not forget the powerful moment when hands were raised—students asking for courage, responding to Pastor MJ's invitation for prayer. God knows the hearts of each one who lifted their hands, seeking His promises, presence and power. It was a profound reminder that God calls us to boldness in our faith... courageous.



After each keynote speaker, students got to choose and attend a breakout session, led by our teachers and staff. There were seven choices of breakout sessions, all related to the theme of courage. Students learned about courageous men and women in the Bible, courageous missionaries, how to have courage amid adversity or in uncomfortable situations, and what to do when anxiety strikes. These practical topics inspired our students to remember God's word and lean on him when we need strength. At Fan the Flame, we saw the power of testimony at work. The courageous hands lifted in response to the messages, the prayers spoken over our students, and the worship at the altar—this is evidence of God moving among us. What an incredible privilege it is to witness His work in the hearts of our students.