notes

LOCATIONS, SERVICE TIMES AND DIRECTIONS AT CROSSROADS.NET.

### **7 HILLS** we die on

Cincinnati is known as the city of seven hills. Crossroads has seven hills, as well—we call them the "seven hills we die on." Simply calling these "values" doesn't cut it. All too commonly, values have come to signify mushy, sentimental ideals for which we rarely fight. As a church, we believe that if something is worth living for, it is worth dying for. We realize we can't do everything but what we, as a community, are called by God to do, we do with excellence.

The Seven Hills We Die On are applications of biblical truth expressed through the unique personality of Crossroads. We remember these seven hills as ABCDERG (we really did try to find an "F" that worked, but finally gave up and went on to bigger things).

The Seven Hills We Die On are applications of biblical truth expressed through the unique personality of Crossroads. Check out the Info Center to read the rest of 'em.

## do your own THING

Oakley

csmJR: Sunday at 10am csmSR: Sunday at 11:45am International Comparison (Comparison of the comparison of the comparison

#### Mason

csmJR & SR: Sunday at 11am

CSM is more than a youth group or cheesy entertainment. It's an experiment to change our world through God's love. If you aren't sure what that is, or you're not even sure you believe in God, that's OK. There's a group of teens with similar interests waiting for you to discuss it and test things out with you. Leave your parents in the Auditorium and come check it out.

For more info or to volunteer, contact Paul Owens at powens@crossroads.net.

# TALK ABOUT

Here's some free advice to help you fill out your bracket or at least be a part of the March Madness conversation, even if you don't know jack about basketball.

If you fill out a bracket, don't leave a blank space. This includes the play-in game. No matter how the points are calculated, a blank equals zero.

Even if you don't fill out a bracket, pick a final four. It can be any four, but for the love, make sure they're in the tourney and ranked at least fifth. A six or lower seed has never made it.

Picking teams solely by ranking will get you nowhere. There's always at least five upsets.

An equally losing strategy is to pick teams based on colors or mascots. Though this year, blue seems a pretty safe bet and I'm told a poisonous nut beats just about anything.

Don't stress over creating the perfect bracket. You have a better chance of throwing a rock at the ground and missing than you do guessing every game correctly.

## 03 13-14 The Program ©

Basketball is my stronghold. I plan to work on it over the next few weeks, starting Thursday at noon.

# Free\*

#### current message series

We might not be as free as we think we are. Even worse, we may have been duped into believing that a relationship with God is about layering on rules and restrictions.

The Bible says, "Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." Not fear. Not guilt. Not morality or religion.

You can experience the kind of joy you thought only kids could have. God's offering real freedom. Get yours.

#### today

We'll be talking about how Freedom is a journey that requires endurance.

★ AS IN FREEDOM

### FIRST time here? OR SECOND, OR THIRD, OR TENTH...

Relax

It's OK to laugh at church. We don't take ourselves too seriously, but we take what we do VERY seriously. As a result, we like to make fun of ourselves, and sometimes, the Bengals. We believe that God has a sense of humor and that you should, too. But if you don't think it's funny, feel free to email us, and later we'll have a good laugh at what you wrote. (Kidding! See? We did it again.)

# in the **KNOW**

#### ADULT BAPTISM

The next baptism is taking place at Oakley in May. To find out if baptism is right for you, attend an upcoming information session on March 14 or April 18 from 1–2:30pm in Meeting Room C. Registration deadline for baptism is April 12. For details, visit crossroads.net/baptism.

#### **NO LAST WEDNESDAY**

There will be no Last Wednesday service in March, due to the journey. The next Last Wednesday service will be April 28 at 7pm at Crossroads Oakley.

#### INFO CENTER FACELIFT

The Info Center at Crossroads Oakley is getting a new look. Construction begins March 14-March 19. If you have a Free group that meets in the Atrium, beware there may be some noise and dust. 3500 Madison will remain open during construction.

#### PARTY FOR A PURPOSE

Benefits the OneCity Foundation. Friday, April 16, from 8pm-12am at the Manor House in Mason. Hosted by Brad and Colleen Johansen, Featuring music from the Menus. Tickets are \$50 per person, or \$45 each for two or more. Purchase online at www.onecity.org or call 513.579.0555. WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND CROSSROADS ⊗

#### EASTER SERVICE TIMES

We're adding a 3pm service on Saturday, April 3 at Crossroads Oakley to make room for our friends at Easter. Easter weekend service times will be: Saturday at 3, 4:30 and 6:15pm and Sunday at 8:30, 10 and 11:45am at Crossroads Oakley, and Sunday at 9:30 and 11am at Crossroads Mason.

#### FRIEND SHRIM POLA

Become friends with Shrimpola (one of the characters in Kids' Club) on Facebook, and get access to family friendly content and activities. Log into Facebook and search for "Shrim Pola."

#### PRAYER

Available after each service in your Auditorium seat. For other ways to receive prayer, or to find out about serving on the Prayer Team, go to www.crossroads.net/prayer. All requests are held in strict confidence.

For more info on things happening around Crossroads, visit www.crossroads.net.



#### MARCH 21-29

Don't miss the upcoming Prayer Experience March 21–29 at Crossroads Oakley. It's designed to be a simple, personal prayer journey with an audio guide to help you engage with God. It's for everyone, whether you've never prayed, or pray everyday. It's designed to last about an hour, but you can take as long as you like.

For hours and childcare info, visit crossroads.net/free.





#### this

It's OK to wear fairy wings and rain boots to church. After all, Kids' Club is a space that is designed just for kids from birth to sixth grade to come as they are and learn about God. They may learn about fear by touching slimy bugs (fake ones, don't freak out on us) or how good it feels to forgive by unloading a backpack of rocks. Whatever they are learning, they are welcome to come in whatever makes them comfortable (even if it's a Spiderman suit and fireman's hat). To see exactly what they are experiencing check out crossroads.net/kc.

If you've got questions about Kids' Club or you'd like to spend time hanging out with some great kids, contact Kim Botto in Oakley at kbotto@crossroads.net or Beth Peery in Mason at bpeery@crossroads.net.



Wait for Brian's instructions, then read this verse, and complete the fill-in-the-blanks to use as a prayer this week.



By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. (NIV)

By faith \_\_\_\_\_\_ got free and refused to be known as \_\_\_\_\_\_ I choose to \_\_\_\_\_\_ rather than \_\_\_\_\_\_. I regard disgrace for the sake of Christ as greater value than the treasures of the previous ways of life because I look forward to the reward of freedom. By faith I \_\_\_\_\_\_, not fearing the stonghold's power; I will persevere because I sense Him who is invisible.