

# PHASE

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## Partnering *with parents*

### AFFIRMATION LETTER

#### What's it About

But encourage each other every day while it is "today." Help each other so none of you will become hardened because sin has tricked you. - Hebrews 3

WOW! Congrats! You are a parent of a teen or soon to be teen. That is exciting and can also be very scary. Kids entering in the youth group are at a BIG transition in their life. One of the biggest questions that is surrounding them has to do with their identity.

They are getting ready to enter into Junior High and they are asking how and where they fit in. At the same time, you have been spending the last 12 or so years passing your faith onto them. Now is the time to help them realize that they need to start making your faith their own. Teens can't wait till college to start that process, if they do, statistics tell us that they will lose their faith.

As they are going through this transition now is the *perfect* time to come alongside them and encourage them in their spiritual walk. To do this we want you to write an Affirmation Letter. We want this letter to reaffirm their identity and also to encourage them to start making their parent's faith their own. A couple of things you might want to say in the letter:

- **Strengths** - Talk about their strengths, NOT athletic or academic accomplishments but things like their character, hard work ethic, gentle spirit, care for others, servant attitude, etc. These are the God given strengths that are most important.
- **God working in your life** - Talk about how you see them growing in their faith and how you see God using them. Talk about the positive potential you see in them and how God can use that.
- **Paint a Picture of your Child's future** - Talk about the dreams and aspirations you have for your teen. Focus on things like having a close relationship with God, loving others, being a good person, etc.

We will have time at the 7th Grade Entry Party where you will give your letter to your teen. This will be a very special moment I hope you can be a part of. Even if you can't come, I still encourage you to write a letter and give it to your teen. Your teen is CRAVING affirmation from you and this will mean the world to them.