

WESTOVER YOUTH RETREAT FAQ

WHERE IS THE RETREAT?

The retreat is located at Camp Hensel off of 1431 near Lago Vista. It takes approximately 45 minutes to drive there from Westover.

IS TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED?

Yes. We provide transportation from Westover to the camp and back. Adult sponsors will drive 12- and 15-passenger vans. We can only provide transportation for those who have turned in forms and money before our Friday departure.

MAY MY CHILD DRIVE HIM/HERSELF?

We strongly discourage this. The Drive out to Hensel is not an easy one, as there are many narrow and winding roads, so we prefer that students either ride with us or have a parent drop them off if they are arriving late. That being said, we leave it up to the discretion of the parents as to whether or not their child may drive. We understand that there are sometime extenuating circumstances, and allow for these. If your child wants to ride with another member of the youth group, **THEY MUST HAVE WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THEIR PARENTS.**

WHY DOES IT COST \$60?

Each person staying on Hensel property costs \$20 per night. The rest of the money is used for food and t-shirts, but much of the cost is subsidized by the youth budget.

WHAT DO THE KIDS DO AT A RETREAT?

The retreat is intended to primarily be a weekend of spiritual growth for our teens. Students that have gone before have high expectations and, therefore, come prepared to have deep discussions, meaningful bible studies and lots of time for self-reflection. We also provide a time for the kids to bond with one another through fun games, free time and great meals. Saturday night is when the students participate in a spiritual activity meant for pretty intense self-reflection, so if your child has to come late, we recommend that they be there for this night.

WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS MEDICATION?

We do not have a nurse coming with us, so please make sure your child is prepared to self-administer any medications they might need.

WHAT SHOULD MY CHILD PACK?

BIBLE, pen, layered clothing, tennis shoes, shower shoes (flip flops), jacket, pajamas, towel, toiletries, sleeping bag, pillow, extra blanket, flashlight

WHAT SHOULD MY CHILD **NOT** PACK?

Other than a flashlight, you DO NOT need to bring any camping gear (i.e. pocket knife, lighter, etc.). This goes without saying, but if any weapons, illegal substances, alcohol, or any other inappropriate items are found, these items will be confiscated and the student in possession of them will be sent home at the expense of the parent.

IS MY CHILD ALLOWED TO BRING A CELL PHONE?

Yes, however, we ask that they keep them out of sight during activities as to keep the environment distraction-free.

WHAT DO I DO IF I NEED TO CONTACT MY CHILD WHILE THEY ARE AT CAMP?

Please call (512) 289-0202 if there is an **emergency** and you need to reach your child.

WHEN WILL YOU LEAVE/RETURN?

We will meet at Westover at 6:30 and leave at 7:00pm on the Friday of the retreat. We will return on Sunday during 2nd service.

WHAT IF MY CHILD HAS SPECIAL FOOD ALLERGIES/PREFERENCES?

Please let us know what food allergies your child has prior to the retreat and we will do everything we can to accommodate their needs. However, if they have extreme needs, please consider sending food of your own.

WHERE WILL MY CHILD SLEEP?

The girls will sleep in cabins near the Mess Hall and the boys will sleep in cabins up on the hill near the amphitheater. There will be 2 KidSafe adults spending the night in every cabin.

ARE THE CABINS HEATED?

Yes. There are heaters in every cabin.

WHO WILL BE AT THE RETREAT?

The students will be split into small groups of 10 for the weekend and there will be 2 KidSafe sponsors in charge of every group. Christian, Kathrine, and Andrew will also be there along with several others who have volunteered their time to cook.

CAN MY CHILD COME LATE OR LEAVE EARLY?

Yes, your child may come late or leave early. However, we ask that you let us know your arrangements in advance so that we can assign your child to a group and a cabin.

WHAT CAN PARENTS DO TO HELP?

The number one thing we need from parents is prayer throughout the weekend. We know that God is the only one who can change hearts and renew minds, so we covet your prayers!