

MVL 49
Summer 2005

GRADUATION

Artist / Ministry & Project Information:

Video Title:

Producer:

Study by:

CONGRADULATIONS! CLASS
OF 2005
GRAD2005.COM

33 DAYS OF DIRECTION

INTERLÍNC

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Theme

Graduation

Objective

This session initiates the “**33 Days Of Direction**” program for graduating seniors. The purpose of **33 Days Of Direction** is to challenge seniors to develop the habit of devotion and quiet time with God. Check out grad2005.com for more information.

Warm Up

Play *Every Time I...* – Sit your grads in a circle, and explain that you’ll start a sentence with the words, “Every time I...” and then add an action. The person sitting next to you must complete the sentence truthfully. For instance, you might say, “Every time I put toothpaste on my toothbrush...” and the person next to you could finish with, “...I use my left hand to squeeze the tube.” Then that person starts the sentence again (with a different action), and the next person in the circle finishes the sentence. Go completely around the circle at least once so everyone has a chance to participate in this fun little game about habits.

Transition

Generate some discussion about habits and daily activities using these kinds of questions:

- What makes an action that you do often a “habit”?
- How long do you have to repeat an action before it becomes a habit?
- What kinds of daily activities do you do that haven’t turned into habits?
- If you wanted to form a new habit or routine, what would you do?

Bible Study

Have three students read aloud **Mark 1:35, Luke 5:16 and John 17:1**. Then talk through these questions:

- What routine or habit do you notice in these verses?
- Read through **Mark 1:21-34**. What kind of day did Jesus have?
- What kind of response do you usually have after a day like that?
 - So why would Jesus get up before the sun?

Read **Luke 5:15-16** and describe the kinds of stress Jesus had to handle.

- What correlation is there between verse 15 and verse 16?

Take a look at **John 16** and **17** and describe the situation that Jesus faced.

- How do you tend to handle impending trouble?
- What do you learn from these Scriptures about the importance of a quiet time and prayer habit?

Transition

Explain the **33 Days Of Direction** challenge. Say, “Included on the *ConGRADulations!* CD, and continued on the grad2005.com website, is a collection of devotionals called **33 Days Of Direction**. Three different youth ministers have written short devotionals around each of the eleven songs on the GRAD CD. Your *ConGRADulations!* CD is much more than a collection of music and videos, it is also an encouragement to continue walking with God as you make this important transition in your life. The **33 Days Of Direction** program will have you reading your Bible, considering the insights of the three youth ministers who have written the devotionals, and listening to the best in Christian music – DAILY! My hope is that we will form a new, and godly, habit during the next 33 days.”

Video¹

Hand out the Student Guides and point out the DAY ONE section – the first devotional in the 33 Days program has been reproduced there. Say, “Along the way on your **33 Days Of Direction**, you’ll encounter video encouragement from some of the musicians on the GRAD CD. How cool is that?! Let’s take a look at one of those videos to get an idea of what they’re like.” Show the **tobyMac** video, and then look through the devotional on the Student Guide.

Video²

If you have time, show the **Audio Adrenaline** video, and point out the DAY NINE devotional on the Student Guide.

Wrap Up

Have a sign-up sheet ready, and pass it around so that your seniors can indicate that they’ll participate in the **33 Days** adventure. Get their names, email addresses and phone numbers – and then plan on creating a new habit of your own: calling at least one of them each day and checking on their progress. Plan a “34th Day” celebration to come back together and talk about the great things God did during the “**33 Days Of Direction!**”

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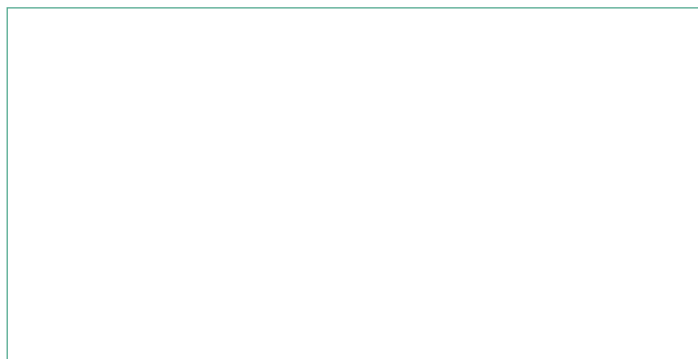
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DAY ONE with Share The Road

tobyMac's "Hey Now (Class of 2005 Remix)"

Think about how much you have to trust the other drivers on the road as you drive. Whether you're on a crowded multi-lane freeway or a two-lane country road, you depend on the other drivers to do their part to keep everyone safe. You expect the other drivers to use their turn indicators, to follow the rules, and to drive in such a way that they – and you – are kept safe. Driving is definitely a community activity!

Most of the traffic signs on the road are designed to encourage safety through cooperation. Think about it. "Speed Limit" signs are posted for safety reasons. A "Lane Ends, Merge Left" sign is definitely a situation that requires cooperation. "Do Not Pass," "Yield," "Road Narrows" and "No Stopping" are all indicators that cooperation is needed.

While you listen to the **tobyMac** song, read these verses from the Bible: **Romans 12:4-6; Romans 15:5-7; Ephesians 4:2-6; 1 Thessalonians 5:11**. Here are some thoughts to ponder:

Notice that the **Romans 12** passage states that each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of His body. When we try to go it alone, we experience frustration and disappointment. However, when we live and function within a community, we find "meaning" in our lives.

More than one voice is needed to make a choir. Understanding how important others are to us, we will go out of our way to welcome, encourage and serve each other.

We need to travel on the same road and in the same direction. That means doing what Ephesians 4 says: acts of love and mending fences. We should let the concept of unity permeate everything we are, think and do.

Write out the names of three people who are an important part of the class of '05 - and the write one way you can show your appreciation for them.

Write out the names of three people in your class who are difficult for you to appreciate - and then write one way you can show your approval of them.

DAY NINE with Offroad Vehicles

Audio Adrenaline's "Dirty"

Consider the Range Rover and the Rolls-Royce. Both are the best cars that England makes, but they fulfill very different purposes. You'd be miserable driving your Rolls-Royce on the logging trails of the Pacific Northwest, but the Range Rover would make the trip fun! Similarly, the Range Rover would be too noisy and bouncy for a nice night out or a trip across the country - two things that the Rolls excels in doing.

Too often, graduates focus on living a "Rolls-Royce" lifestyle. They choose their school, major, career, spouse, house, vacation, etc. with one over-riding consideration: will this help me become successful, comfortable, admired and content? By pursuing mere comfort and convenience, graduates can find themselves on the wrong road, in the wrong vehicle, going in the wrong direction.

Christians are destined to be "off road" people. We are happiest when dirty. We thrive when serving others. Life's meaning and purpose is found in giving away our lives in service to others, not in achieving success or the best possessions.

As you listen to "Dirty" by Audio Adrenaline, read **Matthew 20:25-27, 2 Corinthians 8:9** and **Galatians 6:10**, then answer the questions:

When do you tend to be reluctant to serve someone else?

Who has been a good model of servanthood to you?

What attitudes did they have that make them stand out as a servant?

What did you see them do that made you appreciate their servant heart?

As you head into your future, what can you do to make sure you're going in the right direction as a servant of God?