Dear Lexie,

Season for Last Days

This is the season for 'last days of school.' Many have celebrated or will be celebrating graduations and last days of school. Many students are happy that soon they will not have to wake up early, take the trip to school and deal with homework.

Upcoming Events

Sligo Church will be hosting events for both Sligo Adventist School and Takoma Academy in May and June.

Sligo Adventist School:
- Baccalaureate, May 30, 11:15AM
- Commencement, June 4, 7PM

Takoma Academy:
This Sabbath:
May 30, 2015

Speaker:
Pastor Richard Castillo
"If Only"

Special Musical Guests:
Sligo Children's Choir
SAS Middle School Choir
SAS Violinists

Missed Last Week's Sermon?
Watch Live or OnDemand:
Sligo WebTV

Other future events include:
- Consecration, June 5, 7PM
- Baccalaureate, June 6, 11:15AM
- Prayer Gathering (every Wednesday night @ 7PM)

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Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church | 7700 Carroll Avenue | Takoma Park | MD | 20912
Season for Last Days

glopez

This is the season for 'last days of school.' Many have celebrated or will be celebrating graduations and last days of school. Many students are happy that soon they will not have to wake up early, take the trip to school and deal with homework. This is the time of year when many families begin their summer trips, take vacation, plan for college, start a new career, or just have a staycation at home. The reality is that these last days are very stressful and hectic for students and families alike. Some parents are contending with the stress of making sure their child has caught up with school work, that last minute projects are done and that all requirements are met in order to move to the next academic level. Many parents are preparing for their child's graduation from 8th grade or High School, planning parties, purchasing graduation garb and gifts. This is a stressful time for such parents.

Many of my own friends have been or are in "last days of school" mode, running from here to there like headless chickens. I also have friends who graduated college who are now thinking what comes next. The experience is overwhelming and at times it feels like the end could not come any sooner. If you are one of these stressed people, my advice is that you take a break, breathe and relax, because everything will come out just right. Your child will graduate from Middle School; your child will graduate from High School; your child will graduate from College. So, just stop and enjoy the moment with them; relax and help them enjoy this once in a lifetime experience.

As parents we tend to get overwhelmed with these events and never really enjoy the moment with our graduates. Talk to them about the next step in their lives, because most likely they are overwhelmed with what comes next. Eighth graders are nervous about entering high school as freshmen, high schoolers are anxious about college or adulthood, and college graduates are concerned about life itself. Take this opportunity to strike up a conversation with your children about that next step, as this will help them feel reassured about the future and about the support of those that count – their parents. Speak to your children in the words of Jeremiah: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11). I have always found that the Bible gives me reassurance and allows me to relax and know that God has all under control.

For parents who are stressing out and feeling overwhelmed, remember these words from Philippians 4:6-7: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petitions, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Jesus Christ." It is wonderful that we serve an awesome and wonderful God who joins us in celebrating these moments. So, to all the parents and graduates, congratulations on your achievement! Graduates, may the Lord guide you into the path that He has carved out for you. Parents, may God give you strength and help you enjoy these wonderful times with your children. For all those who are not celebrating graduations, have an enjoyable summer filled with fun and family time.

Gerry Lopez
Tagged with → graduation • summer vacation