

# PARENT LINK

*Keeping Parents Connected*



## Media Reviews

### One Republic: Dreaming Out Loud (Music)

These guys hit it big recently with the mega-hit "Apologize" (with the help of uber-producer Timbaland). The best comparison's are to mash-up artists such as: The Fray, Matchbox 20, Maroon 5, etc. Overall, their music is solid, the lyrics are more often than not meaningful, and could even be described as "Christian" in several spots. I recommend this album to anyone looking for more than bubble gum, but not quite ready to make the leap to indie music. **(Reviewed by Luke Dooley)**

### Juno (Movie)

Juno (*Ellen Page*) is the quirky tale of a teenage girl who finds out that she is pregnant. Realizing that the best hope for a future for her unborn spawn is to give it up for adoption, Juno chooses a "picture perfect" suburban couple played by Jennifer Gardner and Jason Bateman. The movie, although tagged as a comedy, is much more than hilarious one liners one after the other. It shows the 9 month journey of a girl who has to step out of the halls of high school and into the world. The issues of teenage pregnancy and sexuality that our heroin face are very real and are not glossed over, but handled maturely and with some comic relief thrown in. While parents may fret that this movie may be following in the crude footsteps of Knocked Up and Superbad with it's PG-13 rating, Juno is not nearly as strong in the sex & profanity department. It does however contain this content, and should be treated as such a movie. It should be appropriate for high school students who are capable of sifting through some of this questionable content to the moral of the story. **(Reviewed by Allie Dammarell)**

### SUNDAY MORNING STUDENT MINISTRY?

**S**tudent Ministry often struggles to find its place in the church, and in the lives of families within the church.

The adult worship environment ("*Big Church*" as I grew up calling it) is usually the center of attention on any given Sunday morning at most churches. This is obviously important to adults who are attending a church gathering, as is the safety and upbringing of their little ones. Thus: the nursery, toddler classes, and other kids programming becomes a central theme for churches and families on Sunday mornings.

More often than not the teenagers are tossed into the adult environment and forced to sit through adult themed *programming, music* and *preaching*. This often leads to serious side effects, including: spitballs, mass text messages, and a variety of boredom games such as "count the ceiling tiles". Unfortunately none of this leads to significant spiritual growth.

At Journey Church we've made the conscious decision to provide a specific environment for Junior and Senior High Students every Sunday morning for one important reason: **Students Matter.**

It's really that simple. Students matter, their friends matter, their schools matter, their eternity matters. Statistics tell us that two-thirds of all Christ-Followers make the decision to cross the line of faith **before** the age of 18. For many teenagers Student Ministry is often the final place they will hear the life changing message of Jesus Christ consistently and clearly.

Given these numbers, it's easy to see why Journey Church pours so many resources into Student Ministries. These statistics should have an impact on your family as well. **Push** your students to be connected to Student Ministry. **Challenge** your students to invite their friends on a consistent basis... *these things matter, because students matter!*



“These events are key building blocks for BIG Student Ministries. I hope your student can be around! For more details on any of these events, please contact me at the information below.”

Luke Dooley  
 Pastor of Student Ministries  
 luke@cincyjourney.org 513.593.1510

**UPCOMING EVENTS... DON'T MISS OUT!**

WHAT	Super Bowl Party*	Tube & Ski Trip*	Small Group Kickoff Week*
WHEN	Sunday, February 3rd	February 8th-9th	February 10th-16th
WHERE	Luke and Jen's Home	Mad River Mountain	Journey Church
COST	FREE! Bring a 2 Litre of soda	\$30-50	FREE!

\*More details will be shared about each of these events in the coming weeks at 10:10 and through e-mail. We communicate frequently via e-mail. If you don't typically receive e-mails concerning BSM please contact Luke Dooley and request to be added to the mailing list.



**DEAR PARENTS,**

This is the first edition of a newsletter that we will be producing on a monthly basis for BIG Student Ministries. The format and look might change between now and the next issue, but the heart behind this publication will remain the same: *To help parents stay connected with BIG Student Ministries, Pop Culture, Teenage Trends, and Godly Conversation.*

In the future **Parent Link** will be available as a digital resource via e-mail and web download on the final Wednesday of each month. It is my hope that this tool will open a new channel of communication between the leadership of BIG Student Ministries and you as parents. Student Ministry is all about partnerships, this newsletter is no different. Save it, hang it on the fridge, respond to it!

**Live Big!**

Luke Dooley  
 Pastor of Student Ministries