**GRIT Village**

**Meeting Notes for June 13, 2023**

Speaker: Lisa Jones, YoungLives Coordinator at Yakima Valley Young Life

* Young Life is a holistic ministry reaching adolescents (up to 21 years old) where they’re at – school, sports, home – to share Jesus. Mentors earn the right to be friends with the youth.
* Mentors provide spiritual support and model a life the youth need to learn.
* The program for the most part coincides with the school year, but there is camping during the summer at Young Life camps.
* Young Life activities
  + Generally monthly, though mentors will lunch with the kids
  + Club events include snacks, goofy games, a 15-minute talk about Jesus
  + Some kids have separate bible studies and participate in deeper relational time
* Young Lives is a separate program where mentors spend time with teenagers (up to 21 years old) whether pregnant or already parents one-on-one and in monthly gatherings.
* Participants do not have to be Catholic and do not have to believe in Jesus. The mentors are judgment-free but will, in authenticity, share their love for Jesus.
* Programs are located in Yakima, Zillah, Naches, and White Swan.
* “Everyone belongs. It’s a different social path to engage in for when other paths don’t appeal.”