

SO YOUR KID IS IN _____ 11TH GRADE NOW!

High school is a big deal and comes with lots of changes. This may be the year they start to drive! Maybe they know what they want to do after high school. Parenting isn't easy, but we want you to know that we're here for you. Every kid is different, but here are some things that we think could help and be good to know.

ELEVENTH

THE PHASE WHEN →

AND YOUR VERY BUSY TEENAGER ↓

THERE'S LESS DRAMA, MORE STRESS ←

ANSWERS ALL YOUR QUESTIONS WITH

"JUST TRUST ME."

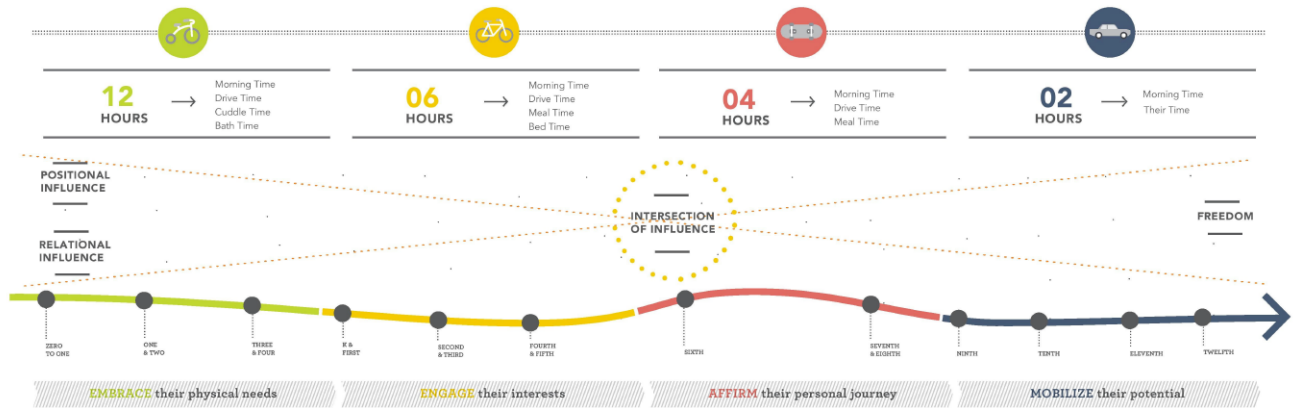
The infographic is a dark blue graphic with white and orange text. At the top left, the word 'ELEVENTH' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif font. To its right is a white icon of a coffee cup. Below 'ELEVENTH' is a white arrow pointing right, followed by the text 'THE PHASE WHEN'. Below this is another white arrow pointing down, followed by 'AND YOUR VERY BUSY TEENAGER'. To the right of these elements is a white arrow pointing left, followed by 'THERE'S LESS DRAMA, MORE STRESS'. Below 'AND YOUR VERY BUSY TEENAGER' is a white arrow pointing down, followed by 'ANSWERS ALL YOUR QUESTIONS WITH'. At the bottom right, the phrase '"JUST TRUST ME."' is written in large, orange, bold, sans-serif font. The entire graphic is set against a dark blue background with a subtle pattern of white diagonal lines.

One question we believe almost every eleventh grader is asking is **"HOW DOES THIS CHANGE ME & THE WORLD?"**

Eleventh graders are ready to start experiencing life the way they feel they were born to. They are itching to get started, and they feel like two years is way too long to wait. Along the way, every new experience they have is measured against this desire. They're beginning to shape who they want to be and what they want to do based on what they've experienced so far. When your students come to CCStudents, we try to answer this by showing them the gospel through experiences that go beyond words and into applications they can take into life.

They are full of passion...and they want to act. When a student experiences God in a way that combines who they believe themselves to be and God's plan for them, they more clearly see how He is moving them to impact their world! This clarity gives them a way to go out and act as a positive force for God.

PARENTAL INFLUENCE



YOUR ROLE IN YOUR CHILD'S LIFE IS TO MOBILIZE THEIR POTENTIAL.

This is another critical phase full of learning experiences. Continue celebrating their positive experiences and support them with the bad ones. They are discovering for themselves their own values and world view through their experiences, and they might push back a bit if they think they are being told what their values and worldview should be. Spend quality time with them and listen to the things they care about and respond with more open-ended questions. You will be providing them with a safe space to slow down and process their thoughts.

They are capable: Your student is very capable of thinking and acting more like an adult. They might surprise you with the things they accomplish or with the thoughtfulness of their ideas. This is often accompanied by pressure to perform. They will be doing a lot more things on their own, you might only see them a couple hours a day. They want to know that you trust them. Check on them frequently and remind them that you love them for who they are!

They want to matter: Long gone are the days of doing something solely based on “fun.” They want to matter – to leave a lasting mark on someone’s life with their skills. They’re discovering what they’re good at and how they can make a difference. You will capture their heart if you help them find productive and impactful ways to use those skills. Help them see that they can make a difference.

HERE ARE SOME WAYS YOUR KID IS CHANGING.

PHYSICALLY

- Has difficulty falling asleep before 11pm, but needs nine hours of sleep.
- Girls have likely reached adult height and body development.
- Guys may continue to grow in height and develop muscle mass, body and facial hair.

SOCIALLY

- Dating becomes more “committed.”
- Increased interest in sexual expression.
- Cares deeply about issues like control, responsibility, and freedom.

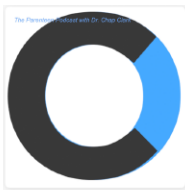
MENTALLY

- Can be insightful and incisive about complex issues.
- Wired for risk-taking.
- Highly self-aware, might feel like “everyone is watching me.”
- Struggles with long-term thinking.

EMOTIONALLY

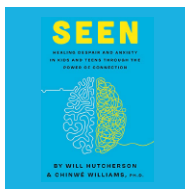
- Values humor as a positive point of connection.
- Is more at ease with who they are.
- Often takes on more than they can handle.
- May struggle with regulating strong emotion.

HERE ARE SOME RESOURCES WE RECOMMEND.



The Parentteen Podcast with Dr. Chap Clark.

This bare-bones podcast gets straight to the heart of what teenagers need and long for most.



Seen.

This short read is incredibly helpful in knowing how to respond to a kid who’s experiencing more anxiety or sadness than normal. It’s easy to want to swoop in and fix it, but that doesn’t work.



Beyond the Spiral.

A companion book to *Seen*, but written to teenagers and young adults to help them understand and manage their anxiety. This could be a great book to go through together with your student if that’s something they’re experiencing.



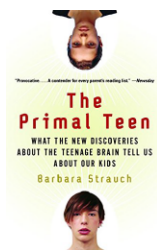
Parenting Your Eleventh Grader.

This has a lot of blank pages for processing questions which isn’t for everyone, but the other pages are full of very insightful information and practical advice or ideas that can help clarify how to engage with your kid.



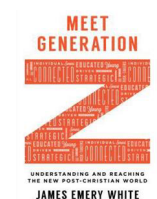
Parent Cue Blog.

This website is crammed with tons of articles on many subjects with practical helpful advice.



The Primal Teen.

This comes from a psychological perspective that gives insight into why teenagers think (or don't think) in unexpected ways. A good book for science nerds.



Meet Generation Z.

This book offers an incredibly insightful look into how your kid's generation thinks and engages with spirituality.



Every Parent's Guide to Navigating our Digital World. Parenting in a Tech World.

Technology is difficult to keep up with. Both of these books could be helpful in giving practical direction in how to not just protect your kids, but connect and interact with them in more meaningful ways.



Bible App.

The majority of kids today don't and probably never will use a physical Bible regularly. If you teach them how to engage the Bible through an app, you're teaching them to use the version of the Bible they always have in their pocket. That's a win! If you want your kid to read the Bible, the most effective way to develop that habit is to do it with them.

If you're not able to afford one of the above resources, please reach out to us--we'd love to help!

HI, I'M ADAM HOPPE!



My name is Adam Hoppe, and I serve as the Youth Pastor at Christ Community Church. I'm thrilled to partner with you in guiding and discipling your student. They are the leaders of today, anointed with compassion, inclusion, and a passion for change. Student ministry involves the entire family, so if I can support you or if you'd like to grab a coffee, please reach out: adam.hoppe@cccgreeley.org.

CCSTUDENTS IS FOR 7TH-12TH GRADERS AND MEETS EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT FROM 6:30-8:30 AT ZOË'S.