

# CHALLENGE

New Orleans - July 1-6, 2012



# Purpose of Challenge

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**VISION:** To provide a catalytic growth level event, targeted for high school students who have trusted Christ seeking to Challenge them to live as a “sent one” on mission with God, everyday, everywhere, forever.

**NEEDS:** Most students understand the core significance of Jesus Christ’s death and resurrection as the means for their forgiveness but have a very vague understanding of the implications of the Gospel in their everyday lives. Many young people are clear on what God calls them to avoid, but not what God has called them to give themselves to.

**THEME:** *EVERYTHING’S NEW:* everyday. everywhere. forever.

Daily, we are bombarded with messages of new inventions, ideas and experiences that promise to change our lives or fulfill our longings. And yet each day we wake up and it seems nothing has changed. But the promise of the gospel is that everything is new. We’ve made the gospel small. We’ve made Christianity about little else than avoiding bad things, having access to a cosmic lifeguard, and getting our ticket to heaven stamped. But the gospel isn’t small! And following Jesus is about so much more than avoiding sin and going to Heaven. We follow a risen Christ, who killed us when He was killed, and raised us when He was raised, which means that now we can view everything through the other side of death -- eyes filled with New Life. This risen Christ entrancement changes the way we see ourselves and every other person around us. It changes the way we view the church, school, technology, sports, dating, love, friendship and all the things that make up our lives. It changes everything.

Through the book of Colossians we will help students open risen eyes to discover the inexplicable wonder that through the Gospel, everything is new. Together, we will see how Jesus, not just crucified for our sin, but risen for our new life, has massive repercussions for why and how we live our lives everyday, everywhere, forever. Literally, everything is new.

**PURPOSE:** Challenge 2012 exists to enlarge student’s vision of the resurrected Christ and therefore walk in the fullness of a resurrected life in everything, everywhere, everyday, forever.

For more information, visit <http://challengeconference.org/>



# Values of Challenge

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- **Jesus-centered:** From start to finish, Challenge is about the glory of God in the face of Christ. (2 Cor. 4:6) He's the One we want students remembering and talking about when they go home.
- **Prayerful:** Transformation is a supernatural, God-dependent process. Therefore, prayer is not simply a tactic, it is our transformational strategy. When we pray we know God moves.
- **Relational:** We believe that spiritual growth takes place best in the context of relationships. Therefore, we seek to create intentional opportunities to strengthen the connections and interactions between students and leaders.
- **Intentional:** We work hard to create an intentionally integrated environment that bleeds the central message throughout each of the diverse components of Challenge in order to create stronger learning environments.
- **Missional:** It's a trademark of every Challenge to partner with church planting in order to leave an enduring gospel presence behind. We challenge students to not only commune with God but to cooperate on mission with Him everyday, everywhere, forever.

CHALLENGE 

# GENERAL QUESTIONS

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## When and where is the conference?

Challenge 2012 will be July 1-6 in New Orleans, LA. The entire conference will be held at the Convention Center in New Orleans

## Where will we be housed?

Lodging will be in three hotels within walking distance of the New Orleans Convention Center.

## What does the conference cost include?

Conference registration fee includes nine main rallies, ministry training and recreation opportunities, 12 meals (beginning with breakfast July 2 through supper on July 6), and all other officially sponsored program costs. Cost does not include any special trips our group may want to take.

## How much does it cost to register?

A **non-refundable deposit of \$100.00** is due with your registration if received by April 8<sup>th</sup> and \$125.00 after that. The total cost for Challenge will be approximately \$950 per person. This includes the conference, airfare, and housing.

Parents & students must read and sign the Conference Rules

**All** participants, including adults must complete the Health & Permission form required by Challenge.

## Will I need spending money?

The recommended amount of spending money is \$75-\$100. This will cover a minimum of 3 meals, music CDs, t-shirt, souvenirs, offering, etc.



# Speakers & Artists

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**Kristian Stanfill (worship leader):** While his upbringing might have been typical, the kid was not. He didn't just pick up the guitar because it was cool. He picked it up because, even without knowing how to play a single instrument, he had been writing songs in his head for years. He recognized a profound need to praise this God he was discovering, and he learned guitar to give voice to that praise.

**Francis Chan (speaker):** Francis Chan is the best-selling author of books, *Crazy Love* & *Forgotten God*, as well as children's books. Francis is the founding pastor of Cornerstone Church in Simi Valley, California

**Craig Gross (speaker):** As a young pastor in Southern California, Craig Gross began to notice a recurring theme among those he cared for – a struggle with pornography. This passion led him to start XXXchurch.com, a website devoted to telling the truth about porn.

**Nick Hall (speaker):** Nick Hall is the founder and chief communicator of PULSE, a Twin Cities based ministry at the center of the largest student-led prayer and outreach efforts in America today. Nick's burning desire is to impact this generation with the revolutionary message of Jesus Christ.

**Eric Mason (speaker):** Dr. Mason is known for articulating and proclaiming the gospel with clarity, passion, and authority at churches and conferences nationally.

**Bryan McWhite (speaker):** Bryan's discipleship to Jesus began his sophomore year of college when Jesus said "Follow me," and wouldn't take "no" for an answer. His life was transformed despite his resistance to God and he became a captive to Christ and a renovation project of God's grace.

**Read more** about these and other speakers/artists lined up for Challenge 2012, just visit <http://challengeconference.org/speakers-artists>

**CHALLENGE**

# CONFERENCE RULES

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**The Challenge conference attempts to keep its rules to a minimum. Here they are:**

1. Students are not permitted in rooms of the opposite gender. This is a non-negotiable rule that will result in being sent home at personal expense.
2. Possession of fireworks, alcohol, tobacco, or narcotics is prohibited.
3. Students are responsible to obey their assigned youth workers and the Challenge staff and volunteers.
4. Youth workers are expected to uphold the rules of Challenge and treat with respect and maturity the Challenge staff and volunteers.
5. Students are required to attend all rallies, the Huddles, and meals. Other "required" attendance is at youth worker's discretion.
6. Racial slurs will not be tolerated.
7. Clothing and swimwear should be modest in taste. It is generally agreed that modest attire does not include clothes like halter-tops, spaghetti straps, Speedos or two-piece bikinis. (NOTE: If it doesn't get packed, it won't be worn.) Challenge staff is permitted to request a student to change into more modest attire. As believers, we should present a modest approach to the way we dress in order to present a favorable impression of Christ and not cause any to stumble.
8. All students must be in their hotel by 11:30 pm
9. No one is permitted to leave the hotel after 11:30 pm or before 6 am
10. Lights should be off and students quiet from Midnight until 6 am.
11. Individuals are liable and will be billed for any damage they have done to the New Orleans Convention Center, any hotel, or Challenge 2012 property.
12. Challenge 2012 identification is to be worn at all times.

Violation of these rules may result in an early dismissal from conference.

**Any student sent home due to disciplinary action would be sent at his or her own expense. They will not receive any refund for conference fees.**

I have read these rules and agree to fully comply with them.

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Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# Registration

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**Step 1:** Complete **Challenge Health & Permission** form. **All** participants (students & leaders) must complete and sign the Challenge Health & Permission form.

**Step 2:** Read and sign **Challenge Rules**.

**Step 3:** Include a \$100 **non-refundable** deposit with your registration. Make checks payable to Oakwood Community Church, with **Challenge** in the memo.

**Step 4:** Complete the information below. Deadline for early bird registration is April 8, 2012.

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

