

## **OFFICIAL CLOSING** — Announcement to Our Parents

August 14th, 2025

## **Dear JosiahKids Parents,**

After much prayer, reflection, and careful consideration, I'm writing to share an important decision regarding the future of JosiahKids.

When this journey began, my heart burned with one simple desire: to empower and equip rising young leaders with the tools, mentorship, and inspiration they need to thrive. That mission has never wavered. But over time, I've found that the structure required to sustain a traditional 501(c)(3) nonprofit—while noble in its intent—has gradually pulled me further away from the heart of the work.

Today, nearly 80% of my time is consumed by audits, fundraising, grant writing, navigating IRS and state requirements, researching liability insurance, managing our website and social media accounts, overseeing committees, stewarding partnerships, organizing events, and recruiting instructors, volunteers, and board members—among countless other responsibilities. Each task is meaningful and essential in its own right. Yet taken together, they've begun to choke the life out of the work I love—my calling.

The best way I can describe this season is to have you pictur DAVID in King Saul's armor. While the armor was meant to protect, it proved too heavy and cumbersome—restricting David's movement and making it impossible for him to engage in battle the way he was uniquely designed to. That's how leading this work under its current structure—now going into our eighth year—has begun to feel. It is an armor I can no longer wear with ease or effectiveness.

And so, with deep gratitude for all we've built together, Newton and I have prayerfully made the difficult decision to dissolve JosiahKids.

This moment carries both the ache of farewell and the fullness of gratitude. We look back with reverence and deep appreciation—for the students we've served, the families we've empowered, and people like you who believed in us and entrusted their children into our care.

But this is not the end—it is a redirection.

Goliath, to me, seems emboldened, bigger, and more defiant—threatening the security and promise of the next generation. I remain deeply committed to the same mission—to take him down—but it must be in the unique way I was designed to awaken and lift this generation. I want to reclaim the simplicity, potency, and power of simply showing up—freely and wholeheartedly—for young people.

The story of JosiahKids is one of impact, resilience, and community—and nothing can erase the beautiful legacy we've cultivated together. From nurturing young minds in leadership and faith to creating safe spaces for creativity and service, JosiahKids has truly been a vessel of light.

This week, the board reached a formal resolution. We anticipate that this process will be completed by the end of April 2026.

As we lovingly close this chapter, our Board of Directors and I have committed to meeting monthly and walking through this transition with utmost integrity. We will follow a thorough, step-by-step process in full compliance with IRS and state guidelines toward an honorable dissolution. All remaining donations will be handled in accordance with IRS requirements, honoring the trust placed in us. Donation receipts will be issued at the end of the year, and those who wish to discontinue their giving are welcome to do so at that time. I have given my word—this transition will be handled with transparency, care, and reverence, with a stewardship report coming to each of you upon completion of the process.

As we move into the new school year, we will be inviting our students and instructors to share ideas on how we might celebrate the legacy of JosiahKids in the months ahead. It will be a season of reflection, celebration, and heartfelt gratitude.

JosiahKids was established to educate, empower, and equip students in the areas of faith, leadership, community service, and the arts. Our vision was to raise up virtuous, service-minded leaders who would reinvest their acquired success into their own communities. Because of your partnership, we've been able to do just that—and so much more.

You have modeled what is good, noble, and true. You've shown your children that sacrifice can be a seed for greater gain, and you've allowed JosiahKids to sow deeply into their lives, an impact that will ripple far beyond our final gathering. As we prepare to lovingly release this organization, we remain committed to walking through the journey with you—not only in logistical matters but in celebration. We'll be looking for creative ways to come together to honor the beautiful work we've done and to cherish the relationships we've built along the way.

From the depths of my heart, thank you for your trust, your wisdom, and your unwavering belief in what this community could become. You have helped build a legacy—and that legacy lives on in your children.

Please don't hesitate to send your questions, thoughts, ideas, and suggestions to us at **contactus@josiahKids.com**.

With deep love and great appreciation,

Newton, Marlene, and The Team @ JosiahKids Founders of JosiahKids