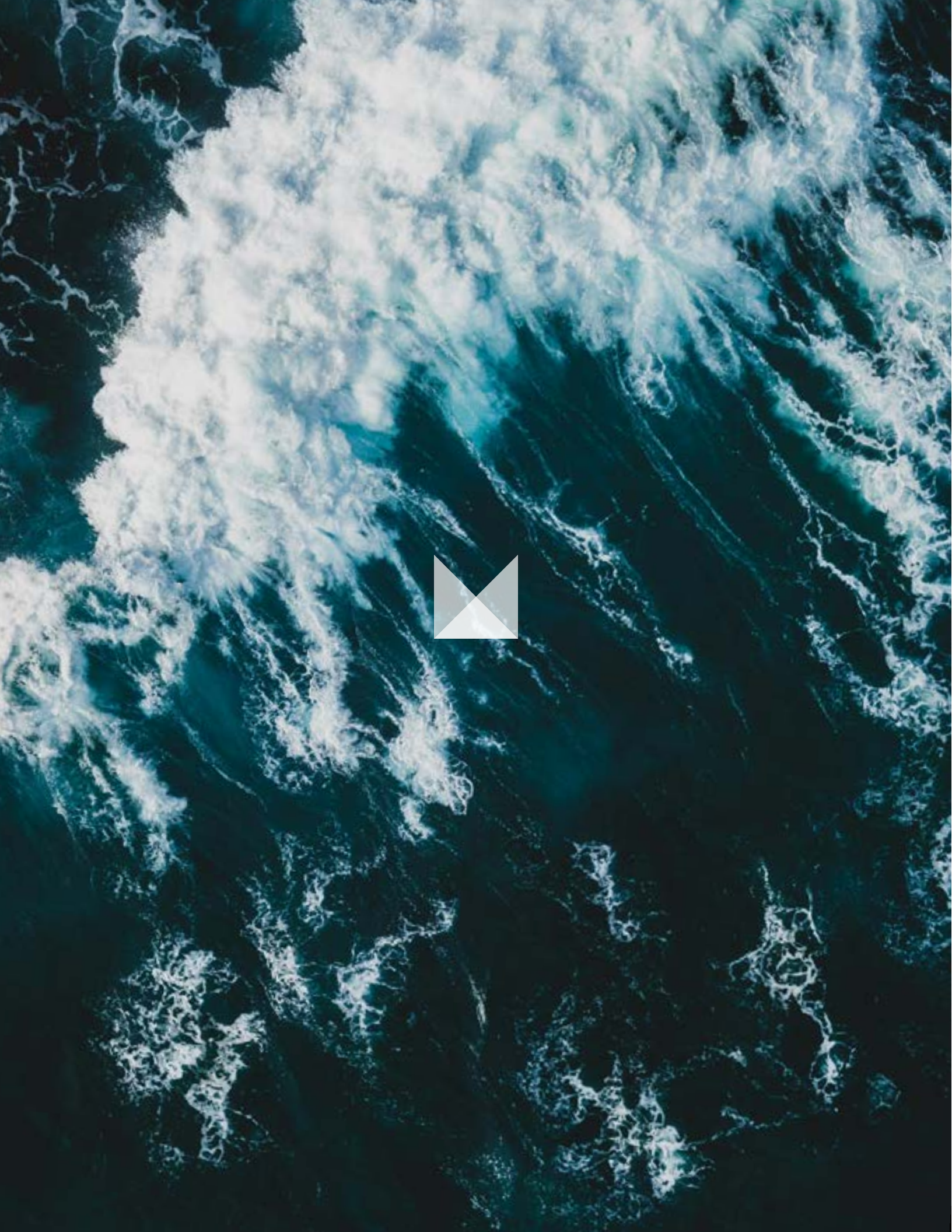


MAVEN
KNOW TRUTH | PURSUE GOODNESS | CREATE BEAUTY

2024
**IMPACT
REPORT**



FOCUSED

What is a MAVEN?

MAVEN: a trusted expert in a particular field, who seeks to pass timely and relevant knowledge on to others in that field.

Our “field” is the truth of the Christian worldview. So, for us, a MAVEN is one who knows God’s truth and seeks to pass it on to others. That’s what we want to be for young people and that’s what we want them to become. That’s what we want to equip parents, grandparents, pastors, youth leaders, and educators to be for the sake of the next generation.

Our Mission

MAVEN exists to help the next generation know truth, pursue goodness and create beauty, all for the cause of Christ, and to equip those who teach and train them—parents, youth workers, pastors and educators—to do the same.

Our Strategies



TRANSFORMED STUDENTS & ADULTS WHO KNOW TRUTH, PURSUE GOODNESS AND CREATE BEAUTY FOR THE CAUSE OF CHRIST.

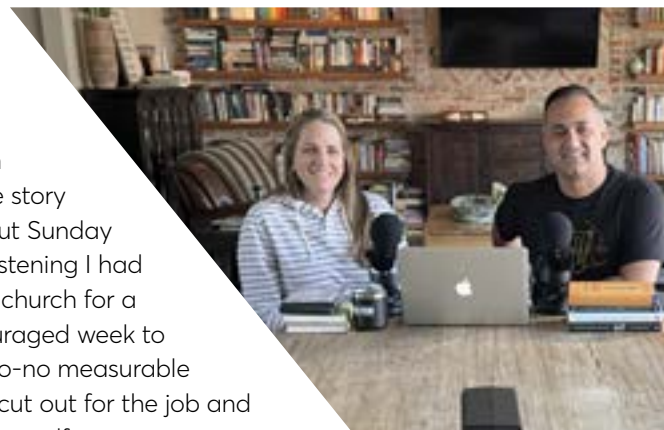
VIRTUAL TRAINING

We harness the vast array of technological tools to reach families, churches and the next generation. Utilizing online articles, video courses, livestream events, podcasts, and social media platforms, we create content that delivers Biblical truth.

MAVEN Parent Podcast

YES, PODCASTS CAN HAVE A DEEP IMPACT: A TESTIMONY

My name is Wendy Stiegelmeier. My husband and I have five boys and we live near Mobridge, South Dakota. I was introduced to your wonderful MAVEN Parent podcast back in 2022, and I have recently felt compelled to share with you the story of how God used your podcast to transform my thinking about Sunday school and children's ministry in general. When I first began listening I had been teaching the 2nd/3rd grade Sunday school class at our church for a few years and quite honestly, I was ready to quit. I was discouraged week to week by what seemed like lackluster participation and little-to-no measurable growth in my young students. It seemed as though I was not cut out for the job and that the kids would be better served by someone other than myself.



Then one day while harvesting on our farm I was binge listening to your podcast and quite providentially, God brought your episodes "Should We Get Rid of Kids' Sunday School?" and "How to Raise Expectations for Kids at Church" to my attention. Those episodes stirred hope within me and I got so excited to start implementing some changes in my class to see if we could see better results. That first Sunday I explained to my students that we were going to be doing some things differently and I asked them to bring their Bibles from now on because we were going to be actually reading from them instead of the summary from our curriculum. As that class time progressed I could visibly see them relax. It's almost as if they were breathing a collective sigh of relief. No more watered-down Bible story. No more "moral McNuggets." Just discussing the Bible story straight from God's Word.

That was nearly 18 months ago and EVERYTHING has changed! We now begin class with a hymn, including the story behind the hymn, if I can find it. We then move to our recitation time where we've learned the Books of the Bible, Psalm 100, and Psalm 1 thus far. After we pray we open our Bibles and read a chapter and discuss it. The kids have been creating a timeline on our wall as we have worked our way through Genesis. Many of the students enjoy drawing pictures to illustrate the Bible story, and each child has a folder to collect these precious drawings. Often we have a few minutes toward the end of class in which I read a chapter or two from *The Little Pilgrim's Progress*, which the kids thoroughly enjoy. Then I end class with a prayer and/or a blessing for them.

I cannot overstate how these changes have transformed our class. The kids have responded so remarkably well. It's clear to me now that what they were receiving before was not nearly challenging enough for them, so they felt no need to actually engage. Now I have up to 16 kids weekly who are all in! They seem to genuinely enjoy class and are eager to ask questions, read aloud from the Bible, and give input about the story. This, in turn, has revolutionized how I feel about teaching my class. I absolutely LOVE it. There's no form of ministry I enjoy more than working with these incredible image-bearers of God. They bring me so much joy and delight each week, and I look forward to our times of learning.

All that to say a HUGE THANK YOU! Your podcast sparked some ideas in me and helped me to see that implementing some key changes could make a difference. I am incredibly thankful for your wise words and your willingness to share your ideas with me and many others who want to serve our Lord. Your work is making an impact.

In Christ,
Wendy Stiegelmeier

53 podcasts produced in 2024

Approximately 11,500 total podcast followers

Approximately 16,500 average listens per month

More than 2,000 new podcast followers gained in 2024

9 podcast guests in 2024

Greg Koukl
J. Warner Wallace
Mike Licona
Paul Copan
Melissa Dougherty
Bobby Conway
Krista Bontrager
Monique Duson
Neil Shenvi

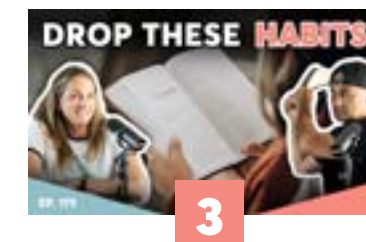
2024 Top Podcast Episodes



1 The Subtle Deception of New Thought w/ Melissa Dougherty



2 Is Gen Z Lazy? The Unfortunate Consequences of Raising A Generation on Screens



3 4 Common Obstacles to Reading the Bible and How to Overcome Them

MAVEN Video Courses

MAVEN currently has five video courses available through our website. There are four more courses in production that will be released in 2025.



Is Christianity actually true? And can we know it? Are there good reasons and evidence for the Christian faith?



Where do you find your identity? What does it mean to be made in the image of God? How does the image of God work out in the real world?



Who is God? What is the Gospel? How do we know what's true when it comes to competing religious claims?



How have Christians been canceled for holding Christian ideas and values? Have you counted the cost of standing for the truth?



How has our culture unraveled? How does God's plan to restore all things impact our culture?



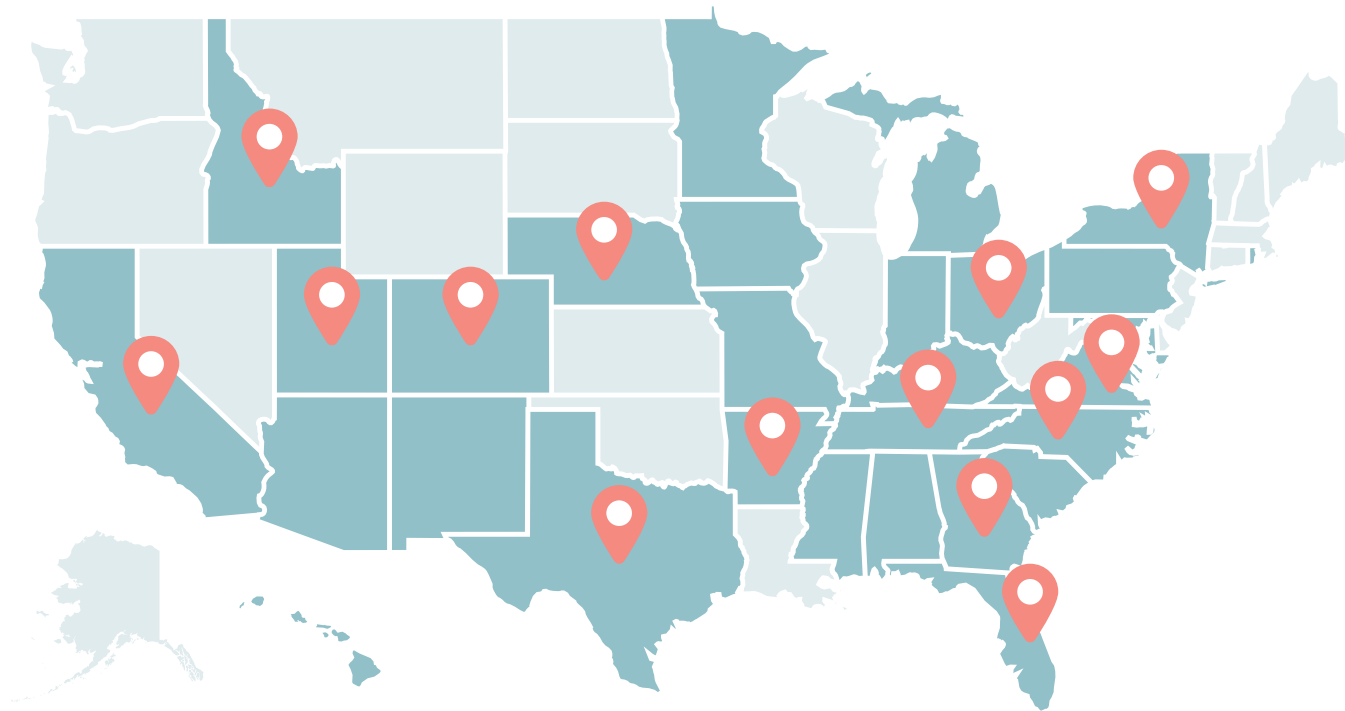
LIVE EVENTS

There is a tremendous need to communicate God's truth face-to-face and in ways that are not only understandable but deeply practical. We meet that need through a partnership between our dynamic speakers and local hosts at in-person events across the country. In addition, we carefully craft our annual MAVEN worldview and culture conferences for students and adults.

MAVEN Speakers



MAVEN Conferences



 **Places Brett and Erin have spoken in 2024**

 **MAVEN speakers have spoken in 29 total states since 2017**



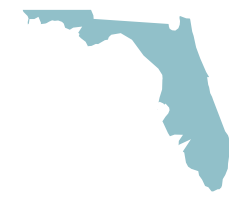
California

330 in-person registrations
+
49 livestreams



Texas

346 in-person registrations
+
30 livestreams



Florida

482 in-person registrations
+
18 livestreams

TOTAL: 1,275+ ATTENDEES



I just wanted to thank you so much for the MAVEN Conference! I have been craving to go deeper in my relationship with God and have been making an effort to put Him first, so this weekend was such a great experience and the speakers were amazing. Thank you for putting so much work into this event.

Ellie Sherod, high school student

Director's Report

More than five years ago, we held our first annual MAVEN Conference in Southern California. In 2023, we expanded to Texas and this year, we stretched across the entirety of the U.S. with our first conference on the East Coast, in Florida.

These in-person events are powerful. During the pandemic we all came to see the limits of technology. Remember how quickly streaming church services lost their luster? Remember "Zoom fatigue?" Remember how we longed for social gatherings? Why? Because we were created by God with physical bodies and thus, we were designed to be face-to-face with other people. And it's through such life-on-life interaction that the most significant impact happens.

BIBLICAL TRUTH DELIVERED BY POWERFUL SPEAKERS

We carefully and prayerfully select dynamic speakers who can communicate effectively and persuasively the truth of the Christian worldview. More importantly, they are men and women who are deeply committed to Christ and the work of His Kingdom. Once again, our speakers delivered. Dr. Kathy Koch, J. Warner Wallace, Ryan Ries, Tim Barnett, Megan Almon, Monique Duson, Shelley Komoszewski, Jonathan Morrow, Erik Thoennes, Erin Kunkle and Brett Kunkle not only took our audiences deeper into biblical truth, they also provided practical steps to bring that truth to all areas of life.

CALIFORNIA

Almost 380 people attended our California conference. Attendees came from 75 different California cities and eight other states. These numbers represent Christian's hunger for solid training in biblical worldview and cultural engagement and the expanding reach of MAVEN.

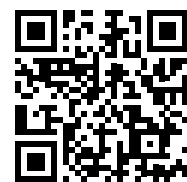
TEXAS

Attendance at our second annual Texas conference increased by approximately 30%, with almost 376 attendees this year. Attendees traveled from states like Georgia, Kentucky, Missouri, Oklahoma, California, and Florida. Locally, Texans came from cities across the state, from Addison to Wylie. And our Texas church host has eagerly committed to year three in 2025.

FLORIDA

Our inaugural Florida conference drew 500 attendees from 17 cities across the state and from five different states. This first-year success demonstrates the need for worldview training across the country.

I could share a multitude of stories of God's impact through the 2024 MAVEN Conferences. Instead, I want you to hear a first-hand account from one of our speakers, Shelley Komoszewski. Scan the QR code by Shelley's picture and get a clearer view of how God's Spirit worked through these powerful events. The only proper response is to give thanks to God!



Soli Deo Gloria,
Jourdan Svajda
Director of MAVEN Conferences

IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCES

We have developed an utterly unique approach to "mission trips," creating a one-of-a-kind training experience that immerses junior high, high school and college students in real-life apologetics, theology, worldview, cultural engagement and evangelism, as we custom-build interactive trips across the country. These immersive experiences are unlike any program available for youth...and they are absolutely life-changing.

- 7** Biblical IEs to Utah
- 1** Imago Dei IE to Los Angeles
- 2** Worldview IE to Los Angeles
- 3** Apologetics IEs to Santa Cruz, Flagstaff, and Boca Raton

PARTICIPANTS

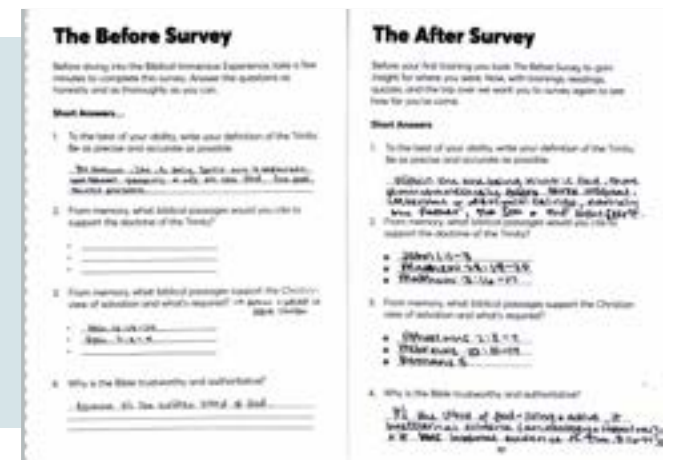
300 students + **87** leaders

- Students average 18 spiritual conversations on each trip.
- This means that the 300 students who attended a 2024 MAVEN IE engaged in approximately 5,400 significant spiritual conversations.



125 staff and students from Impact 360, our biggest Immersive Experience group ever!

The "Before" and "After" surveys every student takes. Notice the improvement! We see this kind of growth consistently.



Directors Report

In 2024, MAVEN led 13 life-changing Immersive Experiences (IE), more than any previous year. But to understand why 13 is a significant number, and why these trips have such an incredible impact on young lives, we have to "peek behind the curtain" to understand the scope of each IE.

IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCES ARE A SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT

Every trip requires hours of pre-trip preparation where students watch training videos, discuss their questions, take quizzes, memorize verses and read books. Before students ever arrive at their IE location, they've already learned an incredible amount about what we believe as Christians and why we believe Christianity is actually true. After this significant investment of time and energy in the months leading up to the trip, groups then meet up with MAVEN's trained Field Guides at their IE location and we lead them through a week-long itinerary that the MAVEN team has spent many hours planning and organizing. The work put in is monumental...and so is the impact.

Our 13 IE trips translated into 300 students and 87 leaders getting a depth of worldview teaching and training the vast majority had never experienced before. These students came from across the country (CA, SC, MN, GA, TX, FL, ND, NM, NC, MT, TN, WA, and ID) to have spiritual conversations in Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, Santa Cruz, Flagstaff, and Boca Raton.

IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCES ARE LIFE-CHANGING

The stories of life-changing impact are too numerous to recount here but let me give you a glimpse. On a biblical IE in Utah, one group of students knocked on the door of a BYU professor who trains Mormon missionaries. These students engaged intelligently and graciously, challenged the professor, and clearly articulated the Gospel. Other groups interacted with BYU philosophy professors, went door-to-door talking to Mormon college students and engaged Mormon missionaries in Temple Square. On our apologetics IE, students had conversations with the leaders of atheist groups, Unitarian Universalists, skeptical college students and even a close friend and colleague of renowned atheist Richard Dawkins.

Of course, it's always a highlight when our students lead someone to faith in Christ. For example, one student walked into a restaurant in Provo, Utah, and ended up joining a table of LGBTQ individuals for dinner. Before they left, she was able to share the gospel with the group. About 30 minutes later one individual from the group returned to continue the conversation and he gave his life to Jesus. Another student who attended our open enrollment trip this summer, realized that he himself had merely a head knowledge of Christianity, but that he had never put his own faith in Christ. He committed his life to Jesus while on the MAVEN trip and was baptized a few weeks later at his home church.

IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCES ARE LONG-LASTING

And the impact doesn't fade when the trip ends. We regularly hear stories of students evangelizing in the airport on their return trip, inviting Mormon missionaries over for dinner, and initiating conversations with their non-Christian friends back home.

Youth group and Christian school leaders tell us that they don't see the typical "camp high crash" with their students after an IE. Instead, they report a sustained commitment and passion to share the Gospel and engage their non-believing friends. One youth pastor from Florida, frustrated by the hyped-up youth events that never lived up to their promises of life change, told us he had never repeated an event in 25 years of youth ministry. But after experiencing an IE with his high school group, he realized these trips were what he had always been looking for. His youth group will attend their fourth consecutive IE next summer.

Students grow in their confidence and boldness to live out the Great Commission because their pre-trip training and IE experience grows their knowledge of Christianity exponentially and the renewing of their minds with God's truth is transformative (Rom. 12:2). This is evidenced by our non-Christian guest speakers who frequently comment on the depth of our student's questions and their ability to engage respectfully. One atheist speaker in California loved her interaction with MAVEN's IE groups and recommended us to a fellow atheist in Florida. This friend, a colleague of the famous evolutionary biologist Richard Dawkins, spoke to another IE group in October and told us we had dismantled her perception of Christian adults. She thought we would never expose our young students to opposing ideas. She not only wants to speak to our groups again but wants to bring Richard Dawkins to speak, as well! An official leader who works for the Mormon church loves what we're doing at MAVEN so much that he helped coordinate sleeping and eating arrangements for our largest IE group ever (170 students and leaders)...and thus facilitated hundreds of Gospel conversations with other Mormons that week!

In all of our work with students, we can honestly say there's nothing else like a MAVEN IE. And we are on track to lead 15 trips in 2025, training hundreds of more students and leaders in the coming year. Thank you for your partnership in raising up a new generation of confident and courageous ambassadors for Christ.



Thanking God for transforming young lives,

Ryan Pauly

Director Immersive Experiences



God shows up! Scan the QR code to watch a four-minute video of students and leaders sharing testimonies of God's work in their lives.



Are these trips "all head, no heart?" Absolutely not. Scan the QR code and watch a 30-second video of student's heart-felt worship at the conclusion of their Immersive Experience.



TRANSFORMATION



Without the distraction of my phone, home life and friends, I was left in an almost uncomfortable silence where I learned to dwell in God's presence and meditate on His word. I engaged in difficult conversations with my group and with the Mormons of Utah. Through talking with them, my heart broke, and my understanding of God's urgency and love for these people grew.

Chloe Desgrosellier



The first conversations that I engaged in were hard and nerve-racking. I thought, "Do I know enough?" "Am I a good enough Christian?" "What happens if I mess up?" I was terrified. I thought someone's salvation was just placed on my shoulders. However, as time went on, the conversation ended, and I began to realize that God's love is active.

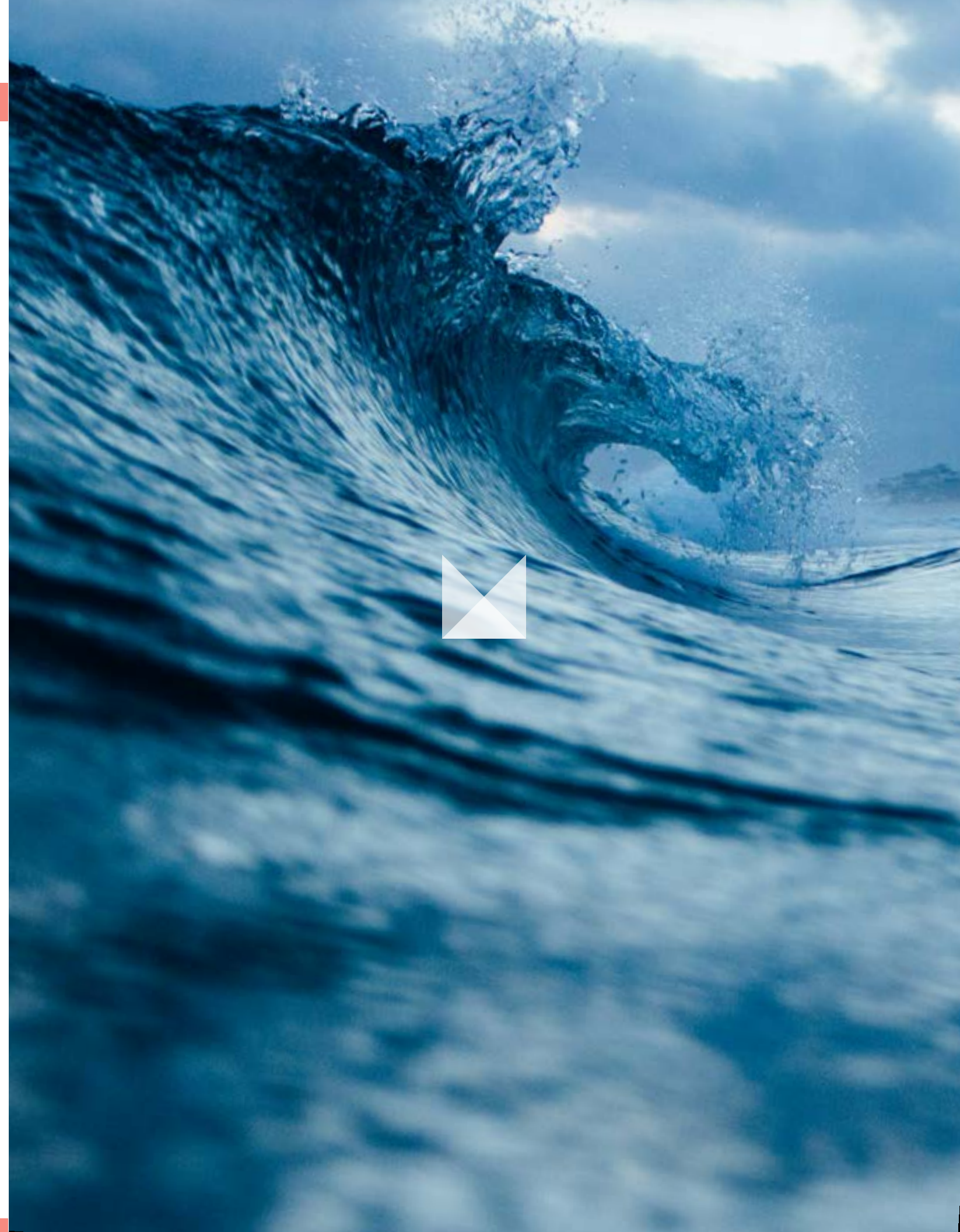
Kaylin Wood



After the third day in Utah and a conversation with a slippery Mormon, I finally realized my inadequacy. I cannot save souls. I cannot convince people to change their religion because of my eloquence. God is sovereign and He uses imperfect people to accomplish His perfect purposes.

When we walked up to the house of a woman, I prayed. For the first time all week, I felt at peace during the conversation. God guided the whole thing and used it to speak truth into her life. I left that conversation with a passion that's still burning within me. People need the gospel...Talking to LDS people on the last day, I felt energized and free. God is the one who works through me, and He is the one who deserves all praise.

Sarah Johnson



KNOW TRUTH.

PURSUE GOODNESS.

CREATE BEAUTY.

MAVEN

www.maventruth.com