

MT. GIDEON BAPTIST CHURCH TEENS NEWSLETTER

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The Importance of Being Young and Knowing God

By: Treston Davis

(A.) It is very important that young people have a relationship with God. Ecclesiastes 12:1 states, remember now your creator in the days of your youth. Young people commonly think and act as if they are going to live forever. For that reason, Ecclesiastes 12, paints a picture of old age and introduces it to young people with the warning.

(B.) Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them." As presented in Eccl. 12:1-5, old age is not a pretty picture and to name a few:

- It's a time of disorientation
- The hands shake and tremble
- The legs and the back now bends and stoop
- The teeth begin to fall out and chewing becomes difficult
- The eyes grow dim
- The hearing grows weak

Certainly there are many elderly who defy this portrait, but usually the conditions mentioned are typical. Ecclesiastes warns the young to

remember God before earthly life ends. Several images convey the coming of death and mourning: a silver cord is loosened, a bowl is broken, a pitcher is shattered, a wheel ceases to turn (12:6), the "dust" of the body returns to earth (12:7; compare Gen. 3:19; Job 34:15), and the spirit goes to God, presumably for judgment (Eccl.12:7,14). This is the fate of every human being. No matter how young or old we are, everyday each of us is a step closer to death. Given that reality, Ecclesiastes challenges young people to live unto God, for life is empty and meaningless without him.

More Than Enough

By: Taylor Wright

A pharmacology test today, clinicals tomorrow, to a part-time job, to dance practice, to family time, to church on Sunday morning then the cycle repeats. These labels whole responsibilities and tasks that can be very time consuming and sometimes tiresome. Others may think that these demands are not anything to worry about

or stress over but this is my life and in order to be successful I have to stay encouraged and focused. I had to learn to prioritize what's most important and least important in my life. Encouragement comes from my Pastor, family, friends, teachers, and often myself. Staying encouraged isn't easy at all with all the distractions in the world. Sometimes I feel it's hard to focus. I want you to know that you CAN do ALL things through CHRIST who strengthens you. This one scripture is what I lean on day to day. I meditate constantly on the Lord's word and I know that if he brought me this far, he will never leave me nor forsake me. That is his promise. I am so grateful to my God for being my strength and my walk. I know many may say I'm young and that I may have to "live a little while longer" to realize the goodness of Jesus Christ but I'm here to hopefully offer a word of encouragement. As a teenager, you're at a stage of uncertainty or it may seem hard to decide what direction to take. Of course you

may have your parents and friends offering their suggestions and advice but at the end of the day the decision is truly yours. Your high school career may be ending soon and you feel yourself in distress, confused, or excited about what comes next. I guess you can call it the fear of the unknown. I'm a living witness that all you have to do is have a little private talk with God. I come to church Sunday morning and receive the word Pastor Willis feeds me. I sit in church quietly receiving Gods word and basking in his Holy Spirit. I must say sometimes I worry my praise is not good enough for God but that's when I speak encouragement over myself and let Satan know that I AM the daughter of a KING and that's more than enough. I am Taylor Wright, a college student, a daughter, a sister, a dancer, a friend, and most importantly a Christian. I want to congratulate the Senior Class of 2017 and let you know to always prioritize by putting God first. Stay Encouraged and know that you are MORE THAN ENOUGH.

