

# Godly Youth

*Young in Age, Strong in Heart*

## Back To School

Most of you are back in school now. When we get ready for school we often buy new clothes, notebooks, and a backpack. However, we must also prepare our hearts for the new school year.

When you go to school remember to be a good example—be like Jesus. We should use proper language, not letting any filthy words or lies come out of our mouths. We should also speak well of others, showing them respect. We certainly should not make fun of other people and hurt their feelings. I cannot imagine Jesus and His apostles sitting around and making fun of others. Instead, I imagine Jesus would make friends with the

person that others would not be friends with.

Be sure to choose good friends at school. You should not be concerned about having a bunch of friends but rather make sure that the friends that you do have will help you become a better person and not tempt you to do things you know are wrong. It is not the number of friends that you should value but the value of your friends. Do not seek to be friends with the most popular people just because they are popular, find friends that will accept you for who you are and will not want you to do things that are wrong.

It is also important to do your best. Not everyone will learn math, English,

science, or history very easily. Some will learn all of these things easily, some will have difficulty in a few areas, and some will always struggle with their grades. Whatever group you are in, do your best. Try hard to get good grades and learn the important skills that will help you in all areas of your life. Don't be frustrated if you have a hard time learning some subjects—EVERYONE has a hard time eventually. You just do your best. If it is not as fast as some other people, don't get down. You are a different person with different strengths and weaknesses. If you do not give up, you will eventually succeed. Be proud of your efforts and of yourself.

## Pray for: Food

When we pray to God, we should always remember those who are sick. When we are praying for others it is called *intercession* (sounds like enter-session). In Acts 28:8, we have an example of Paul praying for a man named Publius who was sick. James also encouraged the sick to seek prayers from the elders of the church.

While we do want to pray for them to get healthy, we must remember that some will not get their health back. We should pray that if God does not heal them, that he would

give them the strength to endure their illness. The apostle Paul prayed three times that a physical problem would be removed. God did not remove it but gave him strength to put up with it.

We should also pray for those who are taking care of the sick: parents, children, doctors, and friends. Try to name the people who are sick in your prayers so that they will be on your mind and think how you could help them. They will thank God for your help.

Volume 2, Issue 7  
August 2003

### Inside this issue:

<i>Meet the Prophets: Habakkuk</i>	2
<i>What Do You Think They Should Do?</i>	2
<i>Who am I?</i>	2
<i>Word Search:</i>	3
<i>Memory Verse: 1 Peter 4:4</i>	3
	4

*" [They]  
searched the  
Scriptures daily  
to find out  
whether these  
things were so."*

*Acts 17:11*



### Lessons from Habakkuk

- God sees the wicked that some men do and will punish them
- The just shall live by their faith in God
- The wicked should be sorry if they do not repent
- God's physical judgment should remind us of spiritual judgment



***“Know what you will do in a situation before that situation arises.”***

## Meeting the Prophets: Habakkuk

Habakkuk (sounds like hub-back-cook), is one of the minor prophets, which means that he did not write a lot of material. We do not know much about him but he has an important message.

Habakkuk cried to God because the wicked people were treating the good people very badly. He wondered how God could allow the wicked people to do mean things for so long.

God told Habakkuk that the wicked seem to be getting away with evil but that He saw all their meanness and sinful ways and he would punish them for disobeying Him.

We need to remember that though it seems like nothing bad happens to

wicked people, God knows their sin and will punish them when He is ready. We must keep doing what is right.

The most important lesson in the book of Habakkuk is “the just shall live by faith.” This important thought is also taught in the New Testament by Jesus and the apostles. Those who do what is right will live by their faith in God.

The wicked are full of pride and greedy for things in this world and God will punish them for both. He pronounced “woes” on those who desired other peoples money and things, people who got drunk and tried to get others drunk, and those who worshipped idols. A woe is a

sorrowful cry to one who is going to be punished. If Habakkuk lived in our day, instead of woe, he might say, “I feel sorry for you” and tell them why they should worry about God’s judgment. Of course, those who are doing right do not have to worry about the “woes” for they have blessings from God.

Habakkuk reminds the readers that since God has punished His people who lived on the earth by bringing enemies against them and making them go without food, He will also judge people before His throne of judgment eternally. We must be ready for judgment by doing what is pleasing to God and not being like the wicked people.

### What Do You Think He Should Do?

Billy was well liked by many of the boys and girls in his class. When his birthday came around, his mother said that he could have a party and invite his friends.

Of course, he invited many of his friends from school and church. However, there was one friend that he didn’t know if he should invite. Joe, a good friend of his from church, was a little different from some of the other kids. Billy always liked Joe and he did not like the way some of his friends made fun of Joe and called him names.

Though Billy wanted Joe to come to his party, he knew his friends would make fun of him. If Billy stood up for Joe, they might make fun of him too. What do you think he should do?

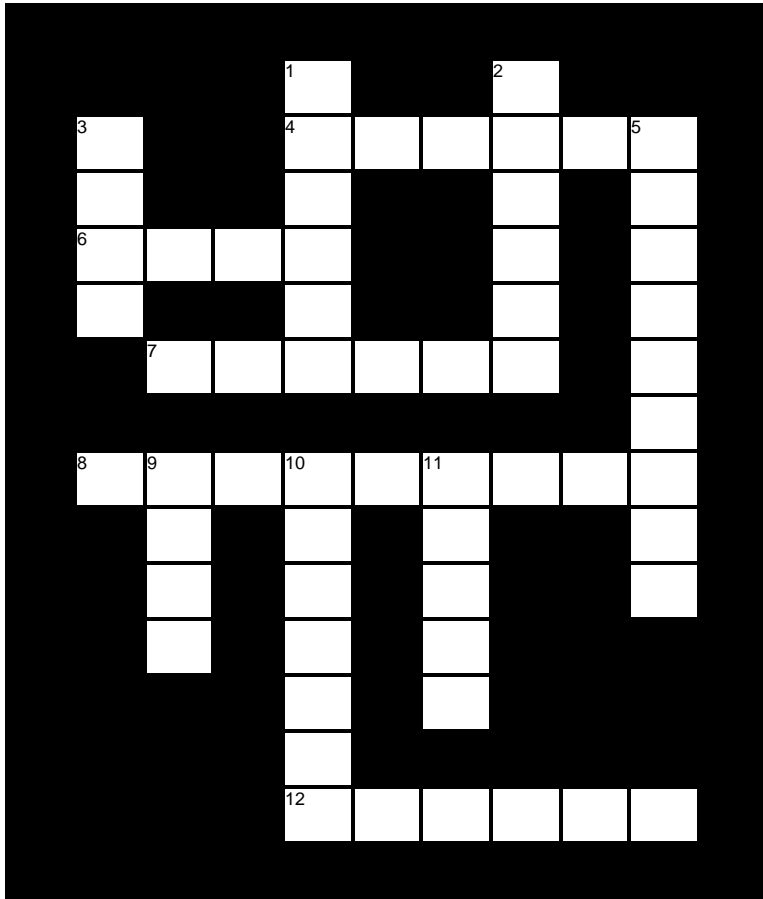
### Who Am I?

1. At first I did not believe Jesus was the Son of God but later changed my mind.
2. I was one of Jesus’ brothers.
3. Paul said I was a “pillar,” or a solid member of the church in Jerusalem.
4. I wrote a New Testament book that is called by my name.
5. I have the same name as two of the apostles

*Do you know who I am? (Answer below)*

*I am James (the Lord's brother)!*

## Word Search: Godly Women



### ACROSS

4. One of the women who ministered to Jesus (Mark 15:40-41)
6. The wife of Boaz; she has an Old Testament book that bears her name and is in the family of Jesus (Matthew 1:5)
7. Mary and Lazarus' sister (John 11:1)
8. A woman from whom Jesus cast out seven demons; Mary \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 8:2)
12. Samuel's mother (1 Samuel 1:20)
- 13.

### DOWN

1. The queen of Persia who saved her people, the Jews. An Old Testament book is named after her.
2. She gave food and financial help to Jesus and the apostles (Luke 3:8)
3. The mother of Jesus (Luke 1:30-31)
5. The mother of John the Baptist (Luke 1:13)
9. A prophetess who blessed Jesus in her old age (Luke 2:36)
10. The only woman judge of Israel (Judges 4:4)
11. A woman who became a Christian in Philippi (Acts 16:12-15)

### Memory Verse: 1 Peter 4:4

*“In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you.”*

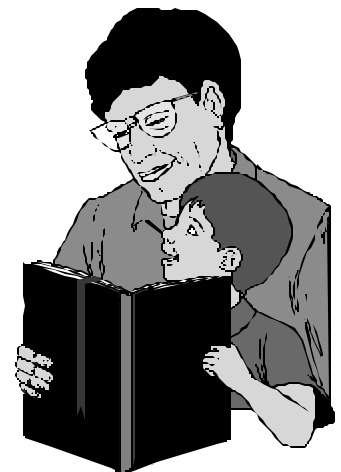
Peter wrote to Christians who had stopped doing things that were wrong like getting drunk and partying. He told them that the people that they used to party with will think it is strange that the person quit “having fun” with the rest of the crowd. In fact, some of their old friends would start making fun of them for trying to do right. Some would be jealous because

they do not have the strength to quit doing wrong. Others just do not like to see people serving God.

Peter said that the crowd ran in a “flood of dissipation.” They were running in a crowd of wild living. So many people are doing it that it seems like a flood that threatens to destroy everything in its path. Jesus said that the wide

path led to destruction but the narrow path led to everlasting life, Matthew 7:13. We need to travel the narrow path with Jesus though many of our old friends might make fun of us for doing so.

We and our old friends must stand before God one day. We want God to be pleased that we left the flood of wild living. He will punish all who will not repent of wickedness.



---

I hope you enjoyed this issue of *Godly Youth*. If you have ideas for articles or questions you want to ask, you can email me at [rhodes.davis@comcast.net](mailto:rhodes.davis@comcast.net) or write to the address below.

---

Godly Youth Newsletter  
c/o Northwood church of Christ  
P.O. Box 416  
Northport, AL 35476

---

A SPECIAL NEWSLETTER  
JUST FOR YOU!

---