

# Godly Youth

*Young in Age, Strong in Heart*

## Becoming the Right Person

Many times when people think of a child of God, they think of what a person can and cannot do. For example, children of God should not use filthy language, tell lies, or do other bad things.

God did not make rules without reason. We must not think that He just wants to see if we will do the things that He commands and avoid the things that He forbids.

God's rules will help us to become the right kind of people. Every day, through the choices we make, we are becoming more like Jesus or more like the devil.



For example, when we lie, we become more like the devil because he is the father of lies. When we tell the truth, we are more like Jesus because He tells the truth and is truth.

Those who use bad language and tell dirty jokes become like the devil because they are breaking God's commands (Colossians 3:8; Ephesians 5:4). They are using their tongues to dishonor God. Those who speak good, clean, and pure things become more like Jesus because their words build people up and honor God.

When your parents, Bible class teachers, or other godly adults try to teach you right things to do, remember that they are not telling you these

things just to make you obey them or make themselves feel important, they are trying to help you become the right kind of person. They are trying to help you become like Jesus.

Decide today that you want to be like Jesus. Study your Bible and listen to your parents, teachers, and preacher as they tell you how God's children should act.

In prayer, ask God to help you become more like Jesus and to have the courage to be like Jesus when other people are pressuring you to be like the devil.

Finally, spend time with people who want to be like Jesus so you can encourage one another to do what is right.

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## Pray without Ceasing

In 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Paul taught the people to "pray without ceasing." What does this mean?

To pray without ceasing is to pray every day and many times a day. If you have a best friend, you want to talk with them many times during the day. God wants us to talk with Him many times during the day as well.

These prayers do not have to be long. We may pause to pray for a minute or two but it is precious time spent with God. We can share with God the good and bad things that are happening that day and ask for His help. He always listens to His children.

Make prayer your daily habit. You can find many things to talk with Him about if you just take the time.

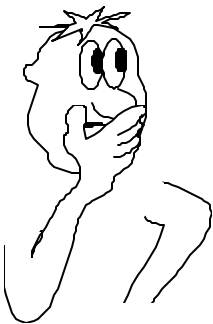
*" [They]  
searched the  
Scriptures daily  
to find out  
whether these  
things were so."*

*Acts 17:11*



### Lessons from Malachi

- We must respect God
- We must give our best in worship to God
- We must not whine when we go to worship
- Do not call evil things good
- God would send John the Baptist to prepare people to obey Jesus



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

## Meeting the Prophets: Malachi

Malachi is the last prophet we will study. His book of prophecy is the last one in the Old Testament.

Malachi carried a sad message from God to the people. They said they loved God but they did not obey Him. God told the people that children on earth show their fathers respect but they had not shown Him, their heavenly Father, respect.

The people did not bring the best animals to sacrifice to God like the law commanded them to do. The people should have brought the best because they were bringing the animals in worship to God. Instead, the people brought animals that were sick or ready to die. God said that He would not accept their offering. We must remember to offer our

best when we come to worship God.

The people also whined that worshipping God was a weariness, or tiring. How sad and angry it must make God feel when our parents say, “It is time to go to worship,” and we whine, “Do we have to?” It is a wonderful thing to sing praises to God and learn about Him from His word. Even though the people came to worship, since they did not want to be there, God did not accept their worship.

The people did many other things that Malachi told them to change. They were not faithful to God, they called evil things good, and said that God accepts evil things. Even today people, sometimes religious people, will say that something pleases God when God, in His

word, said not to do it. Some say it is sometimes ok to lie when God says not to lie. Some say that it is ok to not go to church when God said that we should not miss worship as some people do (Hebrews 10:25).

Malachi ends his message with hope. He tells of a preacher like Elijah the prophet who would turn the hearts of people back to God. He was talking about John the Baptist who, 400 years later, prepared the hearts of the people to worship Jesus. Jesus is our last hope for if we do not follow Him, we cannot please God.

I hope you liked the study of the prophets. Many young people do not know about the prophets and that is sad. Keep learning and growing!

### What Do You Think They Should Do?

Fred was spending the day at Ginny's house. Fred was rolling toy cars down Ginny's long hallway. He began to make the cars go faster though they slammed hard against the wall. Fred did not worry about hurting the wall or the cars because they did not belong to him. Ginny was sad because the cars were a special gift from her father and the marks on the wall were ugly.

Do you think Ginny would invite Fred to her house again? Why or why not?

How do you feel when people are rough with your things? How should you take care of other people's things?

### What Place Is This?

1. It is an ancient land visited by Abraham, Joseph, Moses, and Jesus.
2. Jesus' family came here when Herod tried to kill all the young boys in Judea.
3. Joseph served in Potiphar's house and brought his brothers to this land.
4. God struck this land with ten plagues to free His people from its king.
5. It's kings were called Pharaohs.

*what place is this? (Answer below)*

*It is Egypt!*

# Codebreaker

Use the key below to decode the message:

☉■♁    ⚡☉◆♁❖♁☼    ⚡♁    ☉●&    ⚡♁    ☼♁♁♁⚡❖♁  
 ⚡☼□○    ⚡⚡○☐    ♁♁♁☉◆●♁    ⚡♁    &♁♁♁♁    ⚡⚡●  
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 ◆⚡☉◆    ☉☼♁    ♁●♁☉●⚡⚡■♁    ⚡■    ⚡⚡●    ●⚡♁⚡◆

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
☉	♁	♁	♁	♁	⚡	♁	⚡	⚡	er	&	●	○
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
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Memory Verse: Verse: Proverbs 10:1

“A wise son makes a glad father,  
But a foolish son is the grief of his mother.”

Why do parents want their children to obey? Is it because they like to see people doing what they say? No, they are pleased when their children do what they are supposed to do without being told.

A wise son or daughter, is one who knows what God wants, the parents expect, and what they should do and do it without being told. The parents are happy and proud to see their children

making the right choices and behaving well. When they are around other adults, it makes them glad to know that their children will not embarrass them with rude or bad behavior.

A foolish child brings grief to his parents. They are sad because they do not see them making good choices. They may be embarrassed with other adults because they must constantly correct their children.

It is up to you whether you will be a wise or foolish child. You are the only person who can decide to do what is right, to behave even when your parents are not watching, and to make good choices.

Not only will your parents be glad when you do what is right, you will be glad because you will not be punished but rewarded with respect for making good choices.



# Reputation—by Ron Adams

- Reputation is precious, but character is priceless.
- Reputation is what others think of you. Character is what you really are.
- A good name is attained by many actions and may be lost by one.
- Reputation can be sullied by slander, but character, never!
- Every man has three names: the name he inherits, the name given by his parents, and the name he makes for himself.

📖 A good name is to be more desired than great riches, favor is better than silver and gold.  
Proverbs 22:1

📖 Do not let kindness and truth leave you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favor and good repute In the sight of God and man.  
Proverbs 3:3-4

📖 Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, let your mind dwell on these things. Philippians 4:8

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**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.**

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A SPECIAL NEWSLETTER  
JUST FOR YOU!

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