

Godly Youth

Young in Age, Strong in Heart

That's Unreal

*"...in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.
2 Timothy 2:9-10*

Our view of personal beauty is shaped by what we see on television, movies, magazines, music videos, etc.

Many young people feel sad because they do not look like the movie star or music star on the television or in the pages of a beauty magazine.

Well guess what?

The stars do not look that way either!

Television characters are imaginary. No one has all of the physical beauty, strength, intelligence, wit, charm, and style that you see on TV. When we compare ourselves to people on TV, we are comparing our reality to the imaginary world of Hollywood. We forget that it is make-believe.

Musicians, actors, and athletes hire people to make them look good—**it is not reality.**

I read an interview with a former model who was sad that so many girls spent lots of money and did things

harmful to their health in order to look like her. She said that she never looked like the magazine cover because artists painted over her "flaws."

The next time you see that beautiful model or handsome man in the magazine remember that the image has been fixed by artists to remove all flaws; the models are not as physically perfect as their pictures! Let your attractiveness be the dignity of a godly character.

*Charm is deceitful and beauty is passing, but a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised.
Proverbs 31:30*

Pray for: Good Health

When you say your prayers, it is good to pray that you, your loved ones, and other faithful people will be in good health.

In 3 John 2, John said that he prayed that Gaius would be in good health. We certainly do not want the people we love to suffer because of illness; however, there are other reasons to pray for someone's health.

If a person is healthy they can do some

things in service to Christ much better. When I am sick it is hard to prepare lessons and a sore throat makes it almost impossible to preach. We pray for the good health of those who work in the church so that they can continue in their service to God.

Pray also for your own good health and, whether you are sick or healthy, do the best you can do in service to God.

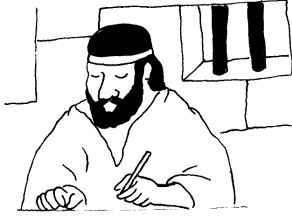
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*" [They]
searched the
Scriptures daily
to find out
whether these
things were so."*

Acts 17:11



Lessons from 1 Corinthians

- You can live pure even when others are talking and acting dirty and impure
- Christians should not be divided
- God's wisdom is better than the wisdom of the world
- Christians should help other Christians in their time of need
- We must not do things that displease God and make His church look bad



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

The Book of 1 Corinthians

Paul wrote 1 Corinthians as a letter, or epistle, to the church in Corinth. Corinth was a wicked city and the church had many problems as members sought to serve God when people who lived around them worshipped idols.

In this epistle, Paul tried to fix several problems within the church. Since Paul used the phrase “concerning the things of which you wrote,” we can assume that Paul was answering questions sent to him from Corinth.

In 1 Corinthians, Paul told them to not to divide into little groups but to join together. He also urged them to learn more of God's wisdom though many people in the world thought it was foolish. Even in our day many people do not see the

wisdom in God's word.

During the time Paul wrote, the Holy Spirit gave some Christians the ability to talk in languages they had not studied, heal sick people, and preach things revealed directly from God. We do not have this ability now since we have the Bible—the Corinthians did not have the Bible. Paul told them how to use these gifts of the Holy Spirit in their service and urged them not to think they were better than some who did not get the spiritual gifts.

While traveling throughout the region of Asia, Paul was gathering money from Christians to help Christians who lived in Judea who had no food because there was no rain for a couple of years. Paul told them they were doing a good work and

that they should make sure to have the money ready when he visited. The Christians took up their collection on the first day of the week—Sunday—and so do we.

Since Corinth was such a wicked city, Paul had to teach the Christians how to be pure. He also told them to change several things they were doing that displeased God and did not make the church look good to their neighbors.

Though they lived in difficult circumstances, and had many problems within, Paul urged them to be faithful to God and to live pure lives. He told them that he might have to be stern with them in order to solve some issues if they did not resolve them by his arrival.

What Should You Do?

The church where you attend is having a gospel meeting. The preacher is very interesting and his message is motivating many people to serve God.

Neither you nor any of your friends in your Bible class have been baptized. On Thursday of the meeting, one of your classmates is baptized. On Friday, two other classmates go to the front of the church building to be baptized.

Though you love God, you do not feel that you are ready to become a Christian but your two good friends are baptized and there are only a couple of people in class who have not been baptized. What should you do?

What Is This?

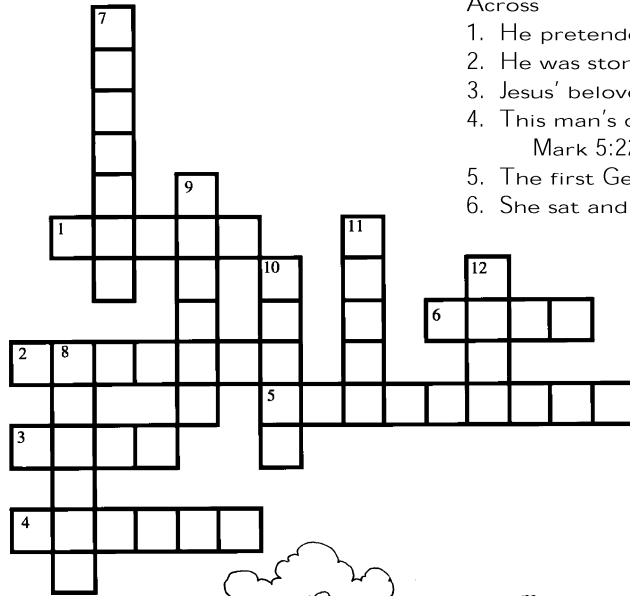
1. Once it ate snakes but never again.
2. It hit water one time and the water in the whole area turned to blood.
3. It hit the ground and small bugs, called lice, came from the dust.
4. It is not a tree but it once grew flowers and almonds.
5. It was stored in the Ark of the Covenant.

Do you know what this is? (Answer below)

It is Aaron's rod!

People of the New Testament

Use the clues and Bible references to figure out the puzzle.



Across

1. He pretended to be Jesus' friend. Matthew 26:46-49
2. He was stoned to death because he loved Jesus. Acts 7
3. Jesus' beloved friend who wrote about the future. Rev. 1:1
4. This man's daughter died, but Jesus brought her back to life. Mark 5:22-43
5. The first Gentile who loved Jesus. Acts 10:1
6. She sat and talked with Jesus. Luke 10:38, 39

Down

7. Jesus' friend who died. John 11:14, 15, 43, 44
8. Jesus' follower who doubted he was alive. John 20:24, 25
9. She did housework. Luke 10:38-40
10. A small boy gave this to Jesus. John 6:5-13
11. He cut off a soldier's ear to try and protect Jesus. John 18:1-11
12. He escaped from his enemies in a basket. Acts 9:24, 25



From Bible Fun on CD-ROM by New Kids Media

Word Box

- | | |
|---------|-----------|
| Stephen | Lazarus |
| Thomas | John |
| Jairus | Cornelius |
| Martha | Mary |
| Judas | Paul |
| Lunch | Peter |

Memory Verse: Proverbs 12:26

"The righteous should choose his friends carefully,
For the way of the wicked leads them astray."

If you want to serve God, the best thing you can do is make friends of people who want to serve God. A person can learn bad language and behavior from someone who is wicked.

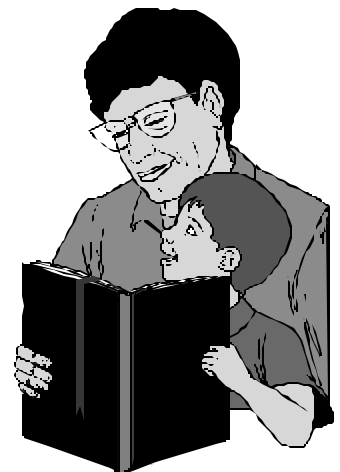
Your choice of friends may determine whether you obey God and go to heaven and follow the devil into hell. Friends can help us do good or persuade us to do wrong. Few decisions are as

important as choosing the right friends.

When you choose friends carefully you take time to see if they will make a good friend. Someone may go to church with you or claim to love God yet use bad language and disobey God and their parents. You must see how they act and hear how they talk to make sure you choose friends that will help you grow closer to God.

Some may make friends of people who do bad things thinking that they will change them. Usually the good person learns wicked things instead of the bad person learning good.

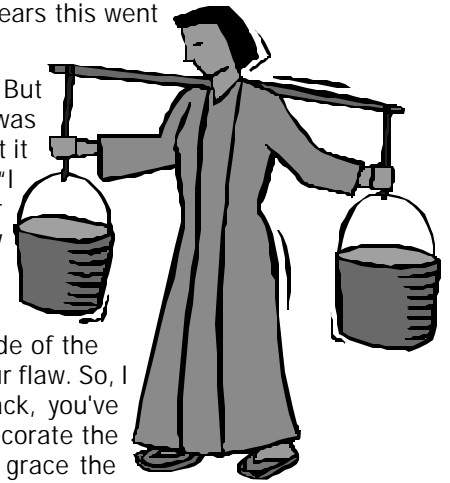
I had a good friend who made friends with some boys who did bad things. Soon my friend was in trouble with the police because he and his "friends" broke the law. Be careful!



The Two Pots by Unknown Author

A water bearer in China had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a pole which he carried across his neck. One of the pots had a crack in it, while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of water. At the end of the long walk from the stream to the house, the cracked pot arrived only half full. For a full two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water to his house.

The perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection. And miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do. After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream. "I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you. I have been able to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said.



The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side? That's because I have always known about your flaw. So, I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you've watered them. For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate the table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this beauty to grace the house."

But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. -1 Corinthians 12:20-22

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 rhodesdavis@joimail.com or write to the address below. Past issues on <http://www.justchristians.info>

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A SPECIAL NEWSLETTER
JUST FOR YOU!
