

Godly Youth

Young in Age, Strong in Heart

Ready For School

It is time for school again. Some of you are happy some are sad. Even if you are homeschooled, there are some things you ought to remember and work on this school year.

Start every day with prayer. Thank God for the day you have been given and ask for His help as you face the day. Ask Him to help you with difficult people and to give you wisdom to make good decisions.

Be a good example. People notice what you wear, how you talk, and how you treat other people. Remember that all you do is seen by God and by others.

Remember God's love. Some people may treat you bad. Some that you thought were your friends may not act like friends. I know it makes you sad but remember that God loves you, your

family loves you, and people at church, like me, love you. It would be great if people never treated you badly but that will never happen. However, there are people who do love you and will love you no matter what you can or cannot do. Of course, God always loves you and cares about you.

Don't do bad things to make people like you. Sometimes people will try to get you to do or say things that you know are not right and breaks your parent's or teacher's rules. They may say that they will be your friend if you do it. Remember, you do not want to make friends with those who want you to do wrong. You can find plenty of friends who like to do good things and stay out of trouble.

Do your work. It is tough to do your

homework when you want to play video games or ride your bike. However, to learn responsibility sometimes we have to say "no" to something we want to do in order to finish something we have to do. I like to promise myself a reward when I do something I have to do, but might not want to do. For example, if I finish my homework, then I can play video games for an hour. This makes me want to finish my homework quickly and I won't have to worry about playing video games too long and forgetting to do the homework, getting in trouble, etc.

I'm sure you will do great this school year. Remember to do your best, obey your teachers, and get excited about learning new things.

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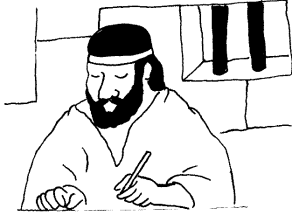
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Starting Today I will... make sure that I do not start using bad language. When I was young I remember a bully in our neighborhood tried to teach other kids filthy words. Bad language does not please God or make us look older. Colossians 3:8 tells us to put away filthy language. We should never speak words that are unkind or hateful. Think before you speak: would Jesus say this?

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

Acts 17:11



Lessons from Titus and Philemon

- The gospel message has lessons for all people at all ages
- When you are young, be a good example to the old and young
- Show respect for God in worship and life
- Teach against false things boldly but with humility
- Though we may not understand why some things happen, God can make all things work for good

What are the books of Titus and Philemon about?

Like the letters to Timothy, the letter to Titus is a letter from Paul to a young preacher. Paul told Titus to go to the island of Crete and appoint elders over each church.

He told Titus to preach to the members old and young, men and women. At the end of his short letter, Paul encouraged Titus to remain faithful and to be a good example to everyone in the church.

Paul wanted Titus to teach young people to have self control and "in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works." Titus wanted young people to do good works--they were not to young to serve God. In their faith he wanted them to be genuine, reverent and incorruptible. What does

this mean? He did not want them to pretend to follow Jesus but to really follow Him. Reverence is showing proper respect for God by behaving in worship and remembering that you will answer to God for how you live.

He also told Titus to teach the truth so that people would not leave God to follow false teachers. Even though the people taught false things, Titus was to be wise and humble when teaching the truth.

The last letter of Paul in the Bible is the letter to a man named Philemon about his runaway slave Onesimus.

During Paul's lifetime some people owned slaves. Onesimus was a slave that ran away from his master Philemon. He went to Rome and while

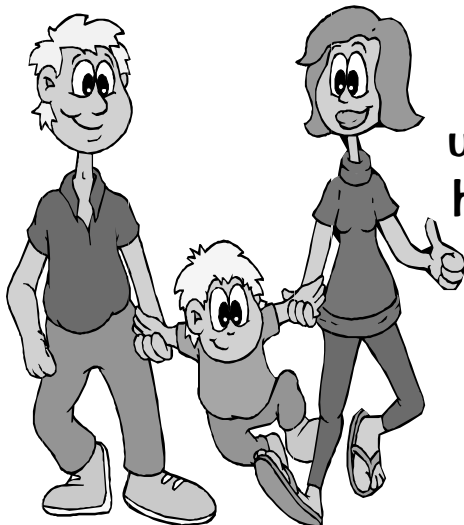
he was there he met Paul. Paul taught Onesimus the gospel and he became a Christian. Onesimus was very helpful to Paul who was in prison in Rome but Paul felt that he must send him back to his master, Philemon.

Paul sent Onesimus with this letter in which Paul urged Philemon, who was a Christian in the church at Colosse, to receive him back kindly, suggesting perhaps that his escape was a way that God used to help Paul and save Onesimus' soul. Paul further asked that Philemon release Onesimus from his slavery for he felt that Onesimus would be useful in the kingdom of God. We do not know if Philemon freed Onesimus but out of respect for Paul I would like to think that he did.

Good Thoughts...

Opportunities are usually disguised as hard work, so most people don't recognize them.

-Ann Landers

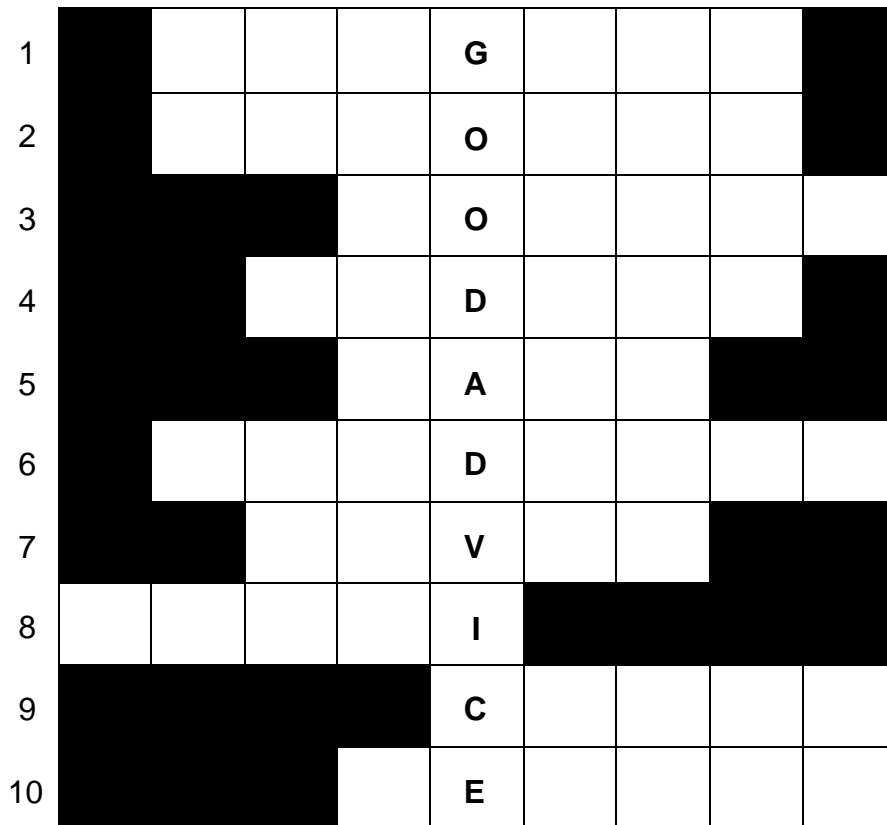


Which Three Are Not Apostles?

- John
- Luke
- Andrew
- Matthew
- Peter
- Philip

- Thaddeus
- Judas
- Titus
- James
- Mark
- Simon

Answer: Luke, Titus, and Mark



Questions
(Hints below)

1. She advised David not to put her husband to death
2. He wrote much sound advice in the book of Proverbs.
3. He told his father and brothers what to say to Pharaoh.
4. They (unnamed) told the king to treat his subjects kindly. 2 words
5. He told Timothy, "Let no man despise your youth."
6. He urged a beautiful kinswoman to try to save her people.
7. He told his son to walk in the ways of the Lord when he became king.
8. She advised her daughter-in-law what to do.
9. He advised the Israelites to go and possess the Land of Canaan.
10. He told his son-in-law to have men help him judge the people.

Hints

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| 1. 1 Samuel 25:14-26 | 6. Esther 4:13-14 |
| 2. Proverbs 1:1 | 7. 1 Kings 2:1-3 |
| 3. Genesis 46:33-34 | 8. Ruth 3:1-4 |
| 4. 1 Kings 12:6-7 | 9. Numbers 13:30 |
| 5. 1 Timothy 4:12 | 10. Exodus 18:12-23 |

From Bible Puzzles, Quizzes, and Games by
Helen Pettigrew

Memory Verse: Proverbs 14:23

"IN ALL LABOR THERE IS PROFIT, BUT IDLE CHATTER LEADS ONLY TO POVERTY."

In all work you do, whether it is a job or your schoolwork, there is some profit as a result of the work. The profit might be money or a good grade. The great profit is the joy of doing a job well and things that you learn that can help you in other work.

Some people do not like to work and they avoid it or do not do their work well. They are only hurting themselves

because life is full of work that we must do well. It is best to learn now to do your best in all of your work.

If you parents tell you to clean your room, do your best and they may think you are acting responsible. Have pride in work that has been done well and you will want to do many things well.

Idle chatter, a lot of talk about nothing, does not pay anything. In fact,

some people who talk when they should be working lose their jobs. If you are too busy talking about nothing when you should be doing homework, you will get poor grades which may cause problems in the future.

When it is time to work, work your hardest and do your best. When it is time to play, enjoy yourself and relax. Don't play when you should be working.



Godly Youth Newsletter

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A SPECIAL NEWSLETTER
JUST FOR YOU!

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>
