

WHAT ALL YOUNG PEOPLE NEED

The Bible says, *“Remember now thy Creator in the day of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them”* (Ecclesiastes 12:1).

So, what are some things that all young people need?

1. Faith

All young people need faith! Faith that there is a God (Hebrews 11:6; Genesis 1:1; Psalm 14:1). Faith that Jesus is God’s Son (John 1:49; 3:16; Matthew 17:5; Matthew 16:16). Faith that the Bible is God’s Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 Peter 1:24-25). The source of this faith is God’s Word itself (Romans 10:17).

2. Pure Bible Teaching

All young people need to know the teaching of the Bible, for Scripture is the revelation of the mind of God. Young people must study God’s Word (2 Timothy 2:15), for the Bible will keep them from the path of the destroyer (Psalm 17:4) and keep their foot from sliding (Psalm 37:31). Young people can cleanse their way by taking heed to God’s Word (Psalm 119:9-11).

3. Respect for Authority

Failure to respect authority in the home is disastrous (read Romans 1:30 and Ephesians 6:1-3). Children are to obey their parents in the Lord (Colossians 3:20). Young people can be good examples (1 Timothy 4:12). Failure to respect the authority of God is disastrous also (Leviticus 10:1-3).

4. Good Examples

No one lives or dies to himself (Romans 14:7); we all influence others, either for good or bad. All young people deserve good examples – good fathers like Abraham (Genesis 18:19) or Joshua (Joshua 24:15). Good mothers like Hanna (1 Samuel 1:11) or Eunice (2 Timothy 1:5). Parents, are you a good example to your children?

5. Love

We live in an age that is unloving, much like the first century (Romans 1:31). But love is an essential part of vital family life (Titus 2:4). Our young people need to know the love of God (John 3:16). And they need to know the love of family. Love is patient, kind, unselfish – it bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things, and never fails (1 Corinthians 13:4-8).

6. Salvation

Ultimately, our young people need salvation – they need to become Christians and live faithful, godly lives (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Revelation 2:10). By so doing, they will learn the true purpose of life and living. Let us help our young people to “seek those things which are above” (Colossians 3:1).

-Chart by John M. Brown