



A Sports Ministry of Trinity Fellowship Church

We Swim for Jesus!

“Don’t let the excitement of being young cause you to forget about your Creator. Honor Him in your youth before the evil years come – when you’ll no longer enjoy living.” Ecclesiastes 12:1

Bible Verse for Week #38

Life Application notes

1. Being young is exciting. But the excitement of youth can become a barrier to closeness with God if it makes young people focus on passing pleasures instead of eternal values. And because it’s not cool to be religious, most young people choose to ignore or forget about God. But time passes quickly and youth fades. Don’t waste your youth – honor God now while you have strength and energy to serve Him.
2. How does a young person “remember the Creator” and “honor God”? It begins by giving one’s life to Christ. The next step is to make God the center of life by asking for His guidance, obeying His commands, and serving Him. It also means allowing God to be involved in every aspect of life: school, friends, dates, family, career, activities, etc. This may all sound very serious and somber to a young person, but life under God’s direction can be exciting and fulfilling ... and fun. And most important of all, it’s right. For abundant, eternal life now and later, trust God.
3. The verses following this one describe what it is like to be old without God. A life without God can produce a bitter, lonely, and hopeless old age. A life centered around God is fulfilling. It makes the “days of trouble” or “evil years” – when disabilities, sickness, and handicaps cause barriers to enjoying life – satisfying because of the hope of eternal life. Nothing is more sad or discouraging than meeting an older person who is angry and bitter because of the way his or her life has turned out. In contrast, nothing is more inspiring and encouraging than a radiant and joyful older person who has persevered through sickness and trials because of his or her strong faith in Christ. What makes the difference? A lifetime of honoring God.
4. Make your strength available to God when it is still yours – during your youthful years. Don’t waste it on evil or meaningless activities that become bad habits and make you callous. Seek God now.

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“Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. John 13:34

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5. Perhaps the greatest misconception that young people have about life is that they will never die. Of course they know in their minds that everyone has to die eventually, but they live as though they are immortal. Arguments about how certain activities might hurt them or destroy their health are easily ignored. After all, they think, I feel great and what's one or two years off my life anyway? Or, I'm too young to think about God. I've got my whole life ahead of me! In reality, we are mortal, and as we grow older, we become increasingly aware of that fact as our bodies begin to break down. But by then it's too late to recapture the idealism, energy, and promise of youth, and we have to live with the mistakes of those years. Don't wait to change, and don't expect that "someday" you will turn to God. Make life count now, no matter what your age.
6. To a three-year-old, a year seems like an eternity; after all, it's 33 percent of her life. To a teenager, a year also seems like a long time, and most can't imagine life ten years from now. But to someone in his sixties or seventies, a year seems like a second and a decade like a day. Time passes quickly, and the older a person is, the faster it goes. The truth is that life is short, no matter how long you live. So live life to the fullest now; make every day count for the Lord – that's God's message through Solomon, here in Ecclesiastes.

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