



Saving the Souls of Our Sons and Daughters

Lesson Five

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- Acts 22:16 - “And now I understand why you are waiting. I hope one day you will be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”
- Acts 26:27 - “King Agrippa, I don’t want to put too much pressure on you. Do you believe the prophets? I hope someday you will believe.”

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- 1Tim. 4:12-16 - “Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. 13 Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. 14 Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. 15 Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. 16 Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.”

God Has Always Known That Young People Can Believe And Obey

- He trusted Joseph to save Israel in time of famine.
- He was seventeen when sold as a slave to Potiphar
 - Gen. 37:2 - “This is the history of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was feeding the flock with his brothers. And the lad was with the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to his father.”

God Has Always Known That Young People Can Believe And Obey

- He trusted David to deliver Israel from Goliath and the Philistines, even though he was just a youth
 - 1Sam. 17:33 - “And Saul said to David, You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are a youth, and he a man of war from his youth.”

God Has Always Known That Young People Can Believe And Obey

- When he was eight, Josiah became a good king
 - 2Chron. 34:1-2 - “Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. 2 And he did what was right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the ways of his father David; he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.”
- When he was sixteen, he resolved to serve God
 - 2Chron. 34:3 - “For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was still young, he began to seek the God of his father David...”
- When he was twenty, he instituted national religious reforms
 - 2Chron. 34:3 - “..and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the wooden images, the carved images, and the molded images”

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- When he was twenty-six, he restored the temple and Passover observance
 - 2Chron. 34:8 - “In the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had purged the land and the temple, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, Maaseiah the governor of the city, and Joah the son of Joahaz the recorder, to repair the house of the LORD his God.”
 - 2Chron. 35:18-19 - “There had been no Passover kept in Israel like that since the days of Samuel the prophet; and none of the kings of Israel had kept such a Passover as Josiah kept, with the priests and the Levites, all Judah and Israel who were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. 19 In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah this Passover was kept.”

God Has Always Known That Young People Can Believe And Obey

- He trusted Jeremiah to prophesy to Judah and a worldly empire
 - Jer. 1:4-8 - “Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying: 5 Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations. 6 Then said I: Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I cannot speak, for I am a youth. 7 But the LORD said to me: Do not say, I am a youth, For you shall go to all to whom I send you, And whatever I command you, you shall speak. 8 Do not be afraid of their faces, For I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.”

God Has Always Known That Young People Can Believe And Obey

- He trusted Daniel to reveal the sovereignty of God over the greatest emperors in the world. Daniel was likely between 12 to 15 when he was taken into captivity, making him between 15 to 18 when he started as Nebuchadnezzar's counselor
 - Dan. 1:1-5, 18-20

God Has Always Known That Young People Can Believe And Obey

- He trusted Mary to bring the Savior into the world, who was very likely in her mid to late teens at the time
 - Luke 1:26-33

God Has Always Known That Young People Can Believe And Obey

- He trusted Timothy to preach the Gospel and appoint elders.
 - Paul selected him to join him on his journeys - Acts 16:1-3
 - He must have been quite young at that time, for it was fourteen years later that Paul tells him to let no one despise his youth - 1Tim. 4:12

What Does God Know You Are Capable Of Doing?

- That you are able to resist temptation
- Like Joseph did when it would have been so easy for him to give in
 - Gen 39:7-12 - “...How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?”
- As Timothy was instructed
 - 2Tim. 2:22 - “Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.”

What Does God Know You Are Capable Of Doing?

- That you are able to trust God to help you
- Like David did when fighting Goliath
 - 1Sam. 17:37, 45-46 - “Moreover David said, The LORD, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine. And Saul said to David, Go, and the LORD be with you! ... 45 Then David said to the Philistine, You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel.”

What Does God Know You Are Capable Of Doing?

- That you can choose proper priorities
- Like Solomon, who realized the value of wisdom - 1Kings 3:5-9
- And later exhorted his own son to seek after wisdom - Prov. 3:1-6

What Does God Know You Are Capable Of Doing?

- That you can courageously do God's will
- Like Jeremiah, even though he had to be reassured - Jer. 1:6-8
- He began his ministry by preaching at the gate of the temple
 - Jer. 7:1-3 - “The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, 2 Stand in the gate of the LORD'S house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the LORD, all you of Judah who enter in at these gates to worship the LORD! 3 Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place.”

What Does God Know You Are Capable Of Doing?

- That you can be true to your convictions
- Like Daniel, who refused to compromise his beliefs
 - Dan. 1:8 - “But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.”
- And as a result found favor in the eyes of others
 - Dan. 1:9 - “Now God had brought Daniel into the favor and goodwill of the chief of the eunuchs.”

What Does God Know You Are Capable Of Doing?

- That you can believe in what God knows you can do
- Like Mary
 - Luke 1:38 - “Then Mary said, Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.”
- Who believed that with God nothing is impossible
 - Luke 1:34-37 - “Then Mary said to the angel, How can this be, since I do not know a man? 35 And the angel answered and said to her, The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. 36 Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. 37 For with God nothing will be impossible.”

What Does God Know You Are Capable Of Doing?

- That you can become an example that silences your critics
- As Paul instructed Timothy - 1Tim. 4:12-16

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- Young people, God knows that you are capable of great faith and great obedience, even though you are young.
- That means that in God's eyes, you are accountable to Him to believe His word and to obey His Gospel.
 - Ecc. 11:9 - "Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, And let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth; Walk in the ways of your heart, And in the sight of your eyes; But know that for all these God will bring you into judgment."
 - Ecc. 12:1 - "Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, Before the difficult days come, And the years draw near when you say, I have no pleasure in them"