

ADMONITION TO YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE CHRISTIANS

INTRODUCTION: Col. 3:16; I Cor. 10:11; Eph. 6:4; I Thess. 5:12

1. All of us need admonition from the word of God.
2. The Word of God gives admonition to the old and the young.
 - a. Older men -- Tit. 2:2
 - b. Older women -- Tit. 2: 3 -4
 - c. Young women -- Tit. 2: 4 - 5; I Tim. 5:14
 - d. Young men -- Tit. 2:6
 - e. Youth -- II Tim. 2:22; I Tim. 4:12
3. I think that you can see from these passages that we all need more emphasis on certain things at different stages of our lives.
4. The Word of God does not single out any age group and give it emphasis above another age group, but gives equal emphasis to all our need.
5. Let us study some needs of YOUTH in this lesson:

I. PUT THE CHURCH AND SPIRITUAL VALUES FIRST IN YOUR LIFE

1. Jesus said, "*Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness*" -- Matt. 6:33
2. You should seek it first for your own salvation -- Acts 2:40; Phil. 2:12
 - a. The saved are in the church -- Acts 2:47
 - b. Christ is the Savior of the body, the church -- Eph. 5: 23
 - c. We are reconciled unto God in the church -- Eph. 2:16
 - d. Only those in the church are purchased with the blood of Christ -- Acts 20: 28
3. Seek it first, for the salvation of others -- Mk. 16: 15 - 16
4. Seek to have your life first in harmony with God's will -- John 14:15
5. God must be first in our lives, or not at all -- Matt. 6: 24; 12:30; 22:37

II. RESPECT AND OBEY YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER

1. Paul said, "*children, obey your parents in the Lord; for this is right*" -- Eph. 6: 1 - 3
2. It is SIN to be disobedient to parents -- Rom. 1:30; II Tim. 3:2
3. The Law of Moses -- Ex. 20:12 -- "*honor thy father and thy mother*"
4. Under the Law of Moses a stubborn and rebellious son was to be stoned -- Deut. 21: 18 - 21
5. When our Mothers and Fathers grow old we are to show them our respect by caring for them and loving them -- Matt. 15: 4 -6; I Tim. 5:4

III. BEWARE OF THE SINS OF THE DISPOSITION

1. The sins of PRIDE, ENVY, COVETOUSNESS, MALICE, SELFISHNESS and HATRED are a constant threat to your spiritual and physical welfare.
2. Paul warns about the sins of disposition -- Gal. 5: 19 - 21; Eph. 4: 31 - 32; Heb. 12: 15; Prov. 16:18 (pride); II Tim. 3: 2 -4; Tit. 3:3

3. Many people today are physically sick because of the sins of disposition.
4. The fruit of the Spirit will keep one spiritually and physically healthy -- Gal. 5: 22 -23
5. Prov. 17: 22 "*A merry heart doeth good like a medicine; but a broken spirit drieth the bones.*"
6. The elder son's sins of disposition:
 - a. Anger -- Lk. 15:28
 - b. Resentment -- Lk. 15:28
 - c. Self-righteousness -- Lk. 15:29
 - d. Envy -- Lk. 15:29
 - e. Contempt -- Lk. 15:30
 - f. Malice -- he did not forgive his brother.

IV. FLEE FROM YOUTHFUL LUSTS

1. II Tim. 2:22 "*Flee also youthful lusts*"
2. Satan is working day and night to lead us into temptation and sin -- I Pet. 5:8
3. The Word of God warns us about DRUNKENESS, FORNICATION, and LASCIVIOUSNESS-- Gal. 5: 19 - 21; I Cor. 6: 9 - 10
4. We are to flee fornication -- I Cor. 6: 18; I Thess. 4:3; Eph. 5:3
5. We are not to look and lust -- Matt. 5:28
6. Young people, you are not fleeing youthful lusts if you:
 - a. Dance
 - b. Engage in petting
 - c. Attend night clubs
 - d. Wear immodest attire.
 - e. Go mixed swimming
7. Premarital sexual activity among teenagers -- 40% of the 29 million teenagers have had sexual intercourse.
 - a. By 1979, 50% of metropolitan-area teenage women (ages 15 - 19) had engaged in premarital relations, while 70% of men (ages 17 - 21) were sexually active.
 - b. Young people -- "*KEEP THYSELF PURE*" -- I Tim. 5:22

V. CHOOSE A CHRISTIAN MATE

1. Your salvation and personal relationship with God is the MOST IMPORTANT thing in your life.
2. Christians must permit nothing to turn them away from God -- I Kings 11:3 - 4
3. You need all the help you can get in living the life of a Christian.
4. To do this, you should seek a person with similar goals and ideals to team up with for life.
5. No person will have as much to do with your life as your husband or wife.
6. Choose a good Christian companion.
7. A preacher for a church in Oklahoma compiled this information for over the 20 year period he worked with that church --the figures are for marriages within that church during that period of time:
 - a. CHRISTIANS MARRIED TO NON-CHRISTIANS -- 79 total
 - i. 57 left the church

- ii. 22 remained faithful
- iii. 14 converted their mates
- iv. 26 divorced

b. CHRISTIANS MARRIED TO CHRISTIANS -- 64 total

- i. 5 left the church
- ii. 59 remained faithful
- iii. 2 divorced

8. Young man and young lady -- THINK ABOUT IT !

VI. SELECT A LIFE'S WORK WHERE YOU CAN USE YOUR TALENTS TO THE FULLEST IN THE SERVICE OF GOD.

1. Too many young people carelessly drift into some occupations where they are not free to do much in the work of the church.
2. Prayerfully consider the job you take.
3. Select the Job which gives you the greatest opportunity to develop as a Christian.

VII. DEVELOP EVERY TALENT YOU POSSESS TO GLORIFY GOD

1. The one talent man did not use his ability and was condemned -- Matt. 25: 24 - 30
2. Develop yourself to the fullest.

VIII. BE A GOOD STEWARD OF YOUR TIME AND YOUR MONEY

1. I Cor. 4: 1 - 2; I Pet. 4:10
2. Realize that part of your time belongs to God
 - a. Don't rob God of the time that belongs to Him.
3. Realize that part of your money belongs to God -- I Cor. 16: 1 - 2
4. Plan to give generously throughout your life.
5. The man who robs God becomes poor indeed
6. Failing to give will destroy your personal sense of responsibility for the work and growth of the church.
 - a. This lessens your concern for the greatest cause on earth.
 - b. You can't go to heaven with the attitude "Let the other fellow pay".

IX. ALWAYS KEEP YOUR EYES ON HEAVEN AND GO THERE!

1. Heaven is real -- John 14:1 - 6; Col. 3:2
2. Heaven can be obtained.
 - a. I Pet. 1: 3 - 5
 - b. II Tim. 4: 6 - 8
 - c. Matt. 25: 46

CONCLUSION

1. If you keep your eyes on heaven you will have an abundant life here and eternal life with Christ in the hereafter.
2. Young people, I hope that you will consider and ponder in your hearts what I have said.

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