

# God’s Message To Youth

## Biblical Guidelines

- I. Serve God now in the days of your youth! Don’t wait until you are older before you believe and serve your Creator. Ecclesiastes 12:1 Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth... John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
- A. Admit that you have sinned against God. Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.
- B. Repent and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ to save you from God’s righteous judgment and <M%-2>everlasting punishment in hell. Matt. 25:46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal. Mark 1:15 ..The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.
  - 1. To repent you must be sorry for your sin and you must be converted (turned) to God for mercy, forgiveness, and satisfaction of God’s judgment by the atoning death of Jesus Christ. Acts 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.
  - 2. To believe and have saving faith, you must trust Jesus Christ to rely on you completely to God with the righteousness of Christ applied on your behalf. Acts 16:30 ...Sirs, what must I do to be saved? 31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved... Romans 3:24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus... 3:26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.
- C. To serve God faithfully, you must be (1) Scripturally baptized by a true church of the Lord Jesus Christ, (2) added to the membership of the church which baptized you, and (3) attend regularly the Baptist church which you join. Acts 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

- II. Witness for Christ. Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.
  - A. Have strong convictions:
    - 1. Know the Bible and stand fast, unwavering in the truth. Use the Bible as your guide for life. II Timothy 1:13 Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.
    - 2. Attend church faithfully. Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more as ye see the day approaching.
  - B. Be an example. I Timothy 4:12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.
  - C. Rejoice when ridiculed because you obey God. Acts 5:41 And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.
  - D. Always serve the Lord. Colossians 3:23 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; 24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ. 25 But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons.
- III. Choose prayer fully that which influences your life and activities. Colossians 3:17 And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.
  - A. Choose entertainment carefully. I Thessalonians 5:22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.
    - 1. Avoid ungodly music. Rock music and country music thrive on the beauty-and-lust cult. Avoid modern music dealing with unfaithfulness, broken hearts, drug usage, and luv-luv-luv with the focus upon worldly beauty and lust. Psalm 68:32 Sing unto God, ye kingdoms of the earth; O sing praises unto the Lord; Selah.
    - 2. TV thrives on immorality based on the beauty-and-lust cult. Be careful what you watch on TV and stop all ungodly influence in your life. Psalm 119:37 Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way.
    - 3. Do not use illicit drugs or alcoholic beverages. <MI%-1>Proverbs 31:4 It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink: 5 Lest they drink, and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted. Isaiah 28:7 ...they are out of the way through

- strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment. Habakkuk 2:15 Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that putteth thy bottle to him, and maketh him drunken...
- 4. Do not participate in activities that lead into immorality in the present or that lead into improper adult behavior. 1 Thessalonians 5:22 Abstain from all appearance of evil.
  - a. Don’t gamble, even in fun. Don’t bet on games. Avoid all quick money get-rich schemes. Proverbs 28:20 ...he that maketh haste to be rich shall not be in no cent. 22 He that hasteth to be rich hath an evil eye, and considereth not that poverty shall come upon him.
  - b. <M%-1>Do not attend social dances or other activities that involve moral compromise and arousal of sexual passion. 1 Thessalonians 4:3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: 4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; 5 Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God: 6 That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. 7 For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. 8 He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit.
- B. Choose friends prayerfully. Amos 3:3 Can two walk together, except they be agreed? II Corinthians 6:14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with an unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?
- IV. Obey authorities that God provides over you. Titus 3:1 Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work.
  - A. Obey God above all else. Acts 5:29 Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.
  - B. Obey parents. Eph. 6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; 3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.
  - C. Obey others (teachers, police, bosses, etc.). Romans 13:1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. 2 Who so ever therefore resisteth

- the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.
- D. Obey the laws. I Peter 2:13-15 Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; 14 Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evil doers, and for the praise of them that do well. 15 For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.
- V. Study and Learn. 1 Thessalonians 4:11 And that ye study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you.
  - A. Study God’s Word. II Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.
  - B. Learn to do well. <MI%-1>Isaiah 1:17 Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. 18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. Titus 3:14 And let ours also learn to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful.
  - C. Learn the Truth. Matthew 11:28 Come unto me [Jesus], all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light. John 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.
  - D. Learn to be content. Philippians 4:11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatso ever state I am, there with to be content. 12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: everywhere and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.
  - E. Take tests honestly. Hebrews 13:18 Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly.
  - F. Learn NOT the way of evil. Jeremiah 10:2 Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them.
- VI. Enjoy sports. 1 Corinthians 9:26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air.
  - A. Strive for mastery and play by the rules. II Timothy 2:5 And if a man also strive for mastery, yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.
  - B. Be a good sportsman: play hard but fair with a pleasant

- ap proach. Pray for power to stand strong in Christ by show ing good sports man ship. Proverbs 4:23 Keep thy heart with all dil i gence; for out of it are the is sues of life.
- C. De sire to win the prize. I Corinthians 9:24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may ob tain.
- D. Get rid of hin drances and be pa tient. Hebrews 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are com-passed about with so great a cloud of wit nesses, let us lay aside ev ery weight, and the sin which doth so eas-ily be set us, and let us run with pa tience the race that is set be fore us.
- E. Work hard and con trol your self. I Corinthians 9:25 And ev ery man that striveth for the mas tery is tem perate in all things. Now they do it to ob tain a cor rupt ible crown; but we an in cor rupt ible. 27 But I keep un der my body, and bring it into sub jec tion: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a cast away.
- VII. Live faith fully as a Chris tian and be a bless ing to oth-ers. Psalm 119:133 Or der my steps in thy word: and let not any in iquity have do min ion over me.
- A. Be de pend able. Al ways be ready to do that which is right. Isa iah 6:8 Also I [Isa iah] heard the voice of the Lord, say ing, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.
- B. Be thought ful; show con cern and un der stand ing. Proverbs 13:15 Good un der stand ing giv eth fa vour.
- C. Be neat and clean in body and soul. Your body re-leases a quart of per spi ra tion each day and you must work to be neat and clean. Bac te ria live in your mouth and on your body. Brush your teeth and use de odor ant. Isa iah 1:16 Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your do ings from be fore mine eyes; cease to do evil; Psalm 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by tak ing heed thereto ac cord ing to thy word.
- D. Look like a Chris tian. Be mod est and con sid er ate of the preferences of other Christians. Don’t let gaudy apparel and make-up become an overbearing adorn-ment that char ac ter izes what you are. Re mem ber, oth-ers are watch ing and copy ing you. I Timothy 2:9 In like man ner also, that women adorn them selves in mod-est apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly ar ray. Romans 14:7 For none of us liveth to him self, and no man dieth to him self.
- E. Develop good habits. Good home habits will pro duce good pub lic hab its. Be con sid er ate and helpful at home. Treat your fam ily with re spect and kindness. It is easier to prevent bad habits

- than to break them! Proverbs 20:11 Even a child is known by his do ings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right.
- F. Compliment others. Accept and give compli-ments sim ply and grace fully. Proverbs 10:20 The tongue of the just is as choice sil ver: the heart of the wicked is lit tle worth. Proverbs 25:11 A word fitly spo ken is like apples of gold in pic tures of sil ver.
- G. Take care of your body. Treat your body prop-erly and reverently. I Co rin thi ans 6:19-20 What? know ye not that your body is the tem ple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 20 For ye are bought with a price: there fore glo rify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.
- VIII. Encourage others. Ti tus 3:1 Put them in mind to be sub ject to prin ci pal i ties and pow ers, to obey mag is trates, to be ready to ev ery good work, Ti tus 3:2 To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gen tle, shewing all meek ness unto all men.
- A. Give honor to whom honor is due, show that you are happy to meet others, in tro duce your friends <M%-2>to oth ers, shake hands firmly Rom. 13:7 Ren der there fore to all their dues: trib ute to whom trib ute is due; cus tom to whom cus tom; fear to whom fear; hon our to whom hon our.
- B. Let your words and life speak clearly for Christ in all con ver sa tion. Philippians 1:27 Only let your con-ver sa tion be as it becometh the gos pel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be ab sent, I may hear of your af-fairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striv ing to gether for the faith of the gos pel.
1. Do not use any swear/curse words, or euphe-mistic (Greek, good sounding) swear word James 5:12 But above all things, my breth ren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into con dem na tion.
- a. Do not use vain ex cla ma tions such as Gosh! and Golly! (euphemistic swear words for God), or Gee! for Je sus, etc. Ex o dus 20:7 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guilt less that tak eth his name in vain.
- b. Do not use ex cla ma tions such as Good ness!, My good-ness!, etc. These ex cla ma tions are rem nants of swearing by a per son’s good name or good char ac ter i ties. Mat thew 5:34-37 But I say unto you, Swear not at all; nei ther by heaven; for it is God’s throne: 35 Nor by the earth; for it is his foot stool: nei ther by Je ru sa lem; for it is the city of the great King. 36 Nei ther shalt thou swear by thy head, be cause thou canst not make one hair white or black. 37 But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for what so ever is more than these com eth of evil.
- c. Do not swear by in vok ing the names of hea then de i ties, such as: Holy cow!, Great Caesar’s ghost!, etc. Joshua 23:7 That ye come not among these nations, these that re main among you; nei ther make men tion of

- the name of their gods, nor cause to swear by them, nei-ther serve them, nor bow your selves unto them: 8 But cleave unto the LORD your God, as ye have done unto this day.
- d. Do not use eu phe mis tic curse words (darn, dang, heck, etc.), or words that sound like curses or swear ing ( shoot, shucks, bull, etc.). A eu phe mis tic swear/curse word is a word which still has the swear/curse mean ing but is not as harsh sound ing. James 3:9 Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made af ter the si mil i tude of God. 10 Out of the same mouth proceedeth bless ing and curs ing. My breth ren, these things ought not so to be...
- C. Put-down comedy destroys a proper understanding of the build ing re la tion ships that should be in our fam i lies. Have a no put-down pol icy for all your hu mor. I Thess. 5:11 Where fore com fort your selves to gether, and ed ify one an-other, even as also ye do.
- IX. God will never permit you to be tempted without providing a way to escape. I Co rin thi ans 10:13 There hath no temp ta tion taken you but such as is com mon to man: but God is faith ful, who will not suf-fer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to es cape.
- A. Christ is our ex am ple of per fect love. John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only be got ten Son, that who so ever be liev eth in him should not per ish, but have ever lasting life. I John 3:16 Hereby per ceive we the love of God, be cause he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the breth ren.
1. Follow the example of Christ in the path of righteousness. II Timothy 2:22 Flee also youthful lusts: but fol low righ teous ness, faith, char ity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart. I Pe ter 2:21 For even here unto were ye called: be cause Christ also suf-fered for us, leav ing us an ex am ple, that ye should fol low his steps.
2. God will bless you for faithfully following Christ in the path of righ teous ness. Psalms 23:1 The LORD is my shep herd; I shall not want. 84:1 No good thing will he with hold from them that walk up rightly.
- B. Help and en courage oth ers. Col. 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wis dom; teach ing and ad-mon ish ing one an other in psalms and hymns and spir i tual songs, sing ing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. 17 And what so ever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Je sus, giv ing thanks to God and the Fa ther by him.

# God’s Message To Youth

## Biblical Guidelines

No good thing will he with hold from them that walk up rightly (Psalm 84:11)

by Dr. Gail E. Terrell

## MYHTAKEN.COM

The Bi ble is our guide for life, a road map of holiness