

SUNDAY—MAY 31

2 Chronicles 13-14; John 12:1-26

Old Testament New Testament _____

Proverbs 18:24 A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

Have the courage to stand alone and oppose a group if needs be. I'll tell you a secret. Most teenagers respect a guy or girl who has the courage to be his own person, even when being teased. An individual with this kind of personal strength often becomes a leader down the road. This person who stands alone for right proves that they have a backbone made of steel, not jelly. He has the guts to stand for what is right. Another thing, this one who stands for right will influence others who want to do right but lack the courage. Your courage will be contagious. Your stand will always help someone else to stand. Be brave. Be strong in the Lord. Walk closely with Him, and you will always have a friend.

What did I learn from my Bible Reading? _____

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What did I learn from my Bible Reading? _____

21 *Your*
DAILY
DIRECTI  **N**
 HERITAGE
 BAPTIST CHURCH



Name _____

21 *Your*
DAILY
DIRECTI  **N**
 HERITAGE
 BAPTIST CHURCH



Name _____

MONDAY—MAY 25

1 Chronicles 25-27; John 9:1-23

Old Testament New Testament _____

*Psalm 118:8
It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.*

Why is social pressure so great during the teen years? Why are we so afraid of being rejected by the group? Why do we allow our peers to pressure and control us by their unfounded opinions? Why is it hard to stand independently? The answer to these questions goes back to the subject of inferiority. When you feel worthless and foolish—when you don't like yourself—then you are more frightened by the threat of ridicule or rejection by your friends. You become more sensitive about being laughed at. You lack the confidence to be different. Your problems seem bad enough without making them worse by defying the wishes of the majority. We need to fix your confidence problem.

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What did I learn from my Bible Reading? _____

SATURDAY—MAY 30

2 Chronicles 10-12; John 11:30-57

Old Testament New Testament _____

Proverbs 18:1 Through desire a man, having separated himself, seeketh and intermeddleth with all wisdom

The Courage to Lead. It will be helpful for you to think about the issues before you face a crisis with your friends. Recognize that they are under the same peer pressure that you feel. They are tempted to do things to be popular just like you, because they are afraid to be different. They are also afraid that their "cool" friend won't include them next time if they refuse to participate in something that is wrong or questionable. So he acts like a jellyfish and does something that makes no sense whatsoever. How much better it is to show that you have personal strength in the Lord when the pressure is greatest. You can say, "If you guys want to do something stupid, go ahead. I want nothing to do with it!"

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FRIDAY—MAY 29

2 Chronicles 7-9; John 11:1-29

Old Testament New Testament _____

Proverbs 29:25 The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.

Remember the story from yesterday. I think we left off with your heart racing. What are YOU going to do? Maybe if you just listen this once, they'll get off your back. One time is not going to ruin your Christian life. So, to avoid confrontation, you do what they say. You listen for a minute and then give it back. You gave in. You avoided the opportunity to display any courage whatsoever, and your "friend" thinks your cool. Circumstances like this are why thousands of young people do drugs, drink alcohol, have immoral relationships, struggle with pornography, etc. They didn't have the courage to say no the first time. The inability to say "no" put them on a path to destroy their life.

What did I learn from my Bible Reading? _____

TUESDAY—MAY 26

1 Chronicles 28-29; John 9:24-41

Old Testament New Testament _____

2 Corinthians 3:5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God;

When you lack the realization that your sufficiency is of Christ, you will become a pawn of the world. You'll dress the way they tell you to dress. You'll talk the way they tell you to talk. You'll walk the way they tell you to walk. You'll lose your individuality and become the thoughts and will of the group. Rather than stand for what you KNOW is right, your greatest desire will be to do what is safe—what will make people like you. These behaviors are all a result of one thing—feelings of inferiority. You must always remember that it doesn't matter what people think about you. It only matters what God knows about you. Remember, they are just as afraid as you. It's time to create a new pressure for right!

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WEDNESDAY—MAY 27

2 Chronicles 1-3; John 10:1-23

Old Testament New Testament _____

Romans 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Think about the problem. Now let's think about some important questions. Why will this subject of conformity be important to you as you go through the adolescent years? Can you see any reason why peer pressure could be dangerous to you? Do you see any ways it could get you into trouble a little later? How does conformity hurt you right now? How does it keep you from doing right? How could it interfere with your life? The reason conformity is so dangerous is that it can cause you to do things that are wrong. This is what happens when you don't have the courage to be different from your friends.

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THURSDAY—MAY 28

2 Chronicles 4-6; John 10:24-42

Old Testament New Testament _____

2 Corinthians 6:17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

Can you say "no"? Suppose you are with your friends somewhat out of sight of any authority. One of your friends that has a phone and some headphones hands it to another of your friends to listen to a song that he/she likes. The music is not Christian, but all of your friends listen and act like they think its cool. You see the video and know something is not right about it. As you are handed the headphone, what are you going to say? You don't want to listen to it, but you don't want to be a "nerd." Your hesitation causes your "friends" to put pressure on you. "Come on, its great music! What are you waiting for? Listen, this is awesome!"

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