

SUNDAY—JULY 5

Job 30-31; Acts 13:26-52

Old Testament New Testament

1 Corinthians 13:11 When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

A Notion Called Emotion. We've discussed the problem linked with inferiority and the meaning of love. Now it's time to get a better understanding of the feelings or emotions that often occur during the teen years. This topic is especially important because of the changes that have or are about to occur in your mind. Believe it or not, the changes that happen in your mind will be almost as dramatic as the changes that happen in your body. You will be experiencing the final flickering moments of childhood. Once you leave it, there will be no return. Hang with me in the days to come, and we discuss some more helpful things that apply specifically to you. Let's pray that God helps you make sense of all that is happening to you.

What did I learn from my Bible Reading?

Handwritten lines for notes.

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26

June 29—July 5

Your

DAILY DIRECTION

HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH



Name



26

June 29—July 5

Your

DAILY DIRECTION

HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH



Name



MONDAY—JUNE 29

*Job 14-16; Acts 9:22-43*

Old Testament  New Testament  \_\_\_\_\_

*Galatians 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love,  
John 15:10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love;  
even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his  
love.*

**Young and Old Love Question #10—"I believe that Teenagers are more capable of genuine love than are older people."** The answer to this final item is "false." Genuine love requires a certain measure of maturity. Dedicated love is only possible for those who have the ability to give of themselves. Love is not grabbing, or self-centered, or selfish. Real love is being able to contribute to the happiness of another person without expecting to get anything in return. This type of selflessness requires a great deal of maturity, which rarely develops during the years of adolescence. To be sure, youthful love is real just as a half-full glass of water has real water. It's just not as deep and full. In time, your glass will be full. Your capacity to love will grow as you grow. Just as Jesus and His Spirit are the source of love, your ability to love will grow in direct proportion to your abiding in Him.

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SATURDAY—JULY 4

*Job 28-29; Acts 13:1-25*

Old Testament  New Testament  \_\_\_\_\_

*2 Chronicles 7:14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.*

Today is our nation's official birthday! 244 years ago today, the founding fathers of our country declared their independence from Great Britain. These men, along with their families, made great sacrifices at the time so that we could enjoy what we have today. Sadly, we live in very difficult times mainly due to the sinfulness of our society. The bulk of Americans have shut God out of their lives, and as a result, America is very sick. Honestly, I don't know what the future holds. I do though have great faith in God and His Word. I believe the promise of the Scripture above is still for us today. We can only pray that God will be merciful to our wicked country. Let's at least do what we can out of love for Him as individuals. Jesus is worthy of our repentance, and we have a nation that is worth praying for. Don't give up. Look to God.

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FRIDAY—JULY 3

*Job 25-27; Acts 12*

Old Testament  New Testament  \_\_\_\_\_

*Genesis 2:24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.*

**A Final Word.** We have discussed many misconceptions about love recently. If I had to sum it up, I would say that love is caring for another person as much if not more than you do for yourself. That is how the Bible describes marital love. It is becoming "one flesh" with another individual. The two of you are actually to become one person. It's more than marrying a person that will do good things for me. It's learning to love someone as I do my own flesh, and by marrying, we become united. That is the real meaning of love. You must ask the Lord to help develop this depth of love in your heart that you might be prepared to be the kind of spouse that the one of God's choosing for you will need. Remember its not about what they can do for you, but what you can do for them. Love is about caring for the other person.

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TUESDAY—JUNE 30

*Job 17-19; Acts 10:1-23*

Old Testament  New Testament  \_\_\_\_\_

*Ecclesiastes 7:8 Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit.*

**The Frying Pan and the Fire.** The desire for "freedom" is one of the strongest forces known to man. This is natural and is a gift from God under the right circumstances and in His time. Be careful that you do not pursue marriage as an escape from your parents or present circumstances. Of all the reasons to marry, the desire to escape from Mom and Dad is one of the worst. You may not particularly like your homelife, but if you're not led of the Lord, you could be jumping from the frying pan to the fire. Be patient. You will be amazed at how much more discernment you will gain as you get into your twenties as opposed to your teen years. A few years of waiting on God will prevent a lifetime of regret and grief.

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WEDNESDAY—JULY 1

Job 20-21; Acts 10:24-48

Old Testament  New Testament  \_\_\_\_\_

*Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;*

**The Real Meaning of Love.** As a teenager, I remember seeing things that saddened me deeply in regards to my home life. It was at that point that I began to pray and determine with God's help to have a happy home that pleased the Lord. God blessed me with a wonderful wife that I've been married to for almost 21 years. We have two sons that mean the world to us. I didn't "fall" in love with Mrs. Cialini. I "grew" into a close relationship with her. After the first surge of emotion was over, I began to develop a deep appreciation for her. I enjoyed her personality and humble-servant heart. Little by little, I developed a desire to make her happy, meet her needs, provide a home for her, and live my life in her company...

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THURSDAY—JULY 2

Job 22-24; Acts 11

Old Testament  New Testament  \_\_\_\_\_

*Song of Solomon 8:7 Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it: if a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would utterly be contemned.*

You should know that I don't always "feel" intensely loving toward Mrs. Cialini. There are times when we are close and times when we are distant. We sometimes get tired by the cares of life, and that affects our emotions. However, when the feeling of closeness disappears, the love remains! Why? Because our relationship is not dependent on a temporary feeling; its based on an unshakeable commitment of the will. I have made up my mind to devote myself to my wife's best interests, even when I feel nothing. I know that the emotion of closeness will return sooner or later, especially when I determine to spend time together and take my focus away from the difficulties of life. Emotions fluctuate. This is why you must understand that love is more than a feeling.—it involves a commitment of the will.

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