

SUNDAY—JULY 12

Psalm 4-6; Acts 17:16-34

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

*2 Peter 2:19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.*

**Completely Free.** Soon you will be your own boss! You will decide when to go out and when to come in, with whom you spend your time, when to go to bed, what to eat, and exactly what you are going to do with your life. You'll decide whether you're going to worship God or ignore Him. Your parents won't be able to require anything of you, because you will no longer be a child. In fact, your relationship with your parents should become more like a friendship, instead of their being your supervisors and disciplinarians. Childhood begins with great dependence at birth and moves toward total independence at the far end of adolescence. During the same time, your parents are also being set free. Space will not permit me to complete this thought, but hang with me. Tomorrow we will continue this thought of "The Conflict Between generations..."

What did I learn from my Bible Reading? \_\_\_\_\_

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27

July 6-12

Your

DAILY  
DIRECTION 

HERITAGE  
BAPTIST CHURCH



Name \_\_\_\_\_



27

July 6-12

Your

DAILY  
DIRECTION 

HERITAGE  
BAPTIST CHURCH



Name \_\_\_\_\_



MONDAY—JULY 6

*Job 32-33; Acts 14*

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

*Ecclesiastes 11:9 - Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.*

**The Strongest Feelings.** Young people feel more strongly about EVERYTHING, especially during adolescence. Things that don't seem like such a big deal to adults are an enormous deal to youth. As you experience the next few years of your life, know this—your feelings will grow more intense. Your fears will become more frightening, your pleasures will become more exciting, your irritations will be more distressing, and your frustrations will become more intolerable. Every experience will appear "king-sized" during adolescence. This is why teenagers are often so explosive, and why they sometimes do things without thinking and then regret it later. You'll soon learn that feelings run deep and powerful during you teen years. We are going to discuss six characteristics of emotions during adolescence. You may end up feeling like a human yo-yo!

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SATURDAY—JULY 11

*Psalms 1-3; Acts 17:1-15*

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

*1 Peter 2:16 As free, and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.*

**#3. The Declaration of Independence.** (cont...) Each time you learn a new behavior, you are granted additional independence from your parents. You now can wash behind your own ears! More and more throughout the years, you have learned to do on your own what only your parents could do for you before. Your learning to complete more difficult assignments and to think for yourself. With each step in the growth process, you've become more independent from your parents and they have gained more freedom from the task of serving you. In a few years, that process will be complete. You will be totally independent of mom and dad, and they will be totally free from the obligation of serving you. Sounds like fun, right? As much as you anticipate with excitement the prospect of being FREE, there are somethings you should know.

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FRIDAY—JULY 10

*Job 41-42; Acts 16:22-40*

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

*Galatians 5:13 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.*

**#3. The Declaration of Independence.** Now let's talk heart-to-heart about another emotional problem that usually arises during adolescence. Let's call it "The Conflict Between Generations." This phrase refers to the irritation and harsh feelings that are likely to occur between you and your parents during teen years. There are some stressful changes that will occur in your relationship with mom and dad. When you were born, you were totally dependent upon them for everything. Your very life was in their hands—you could do nothing for yourself: you couldn't roll over, scratch your head. You couldn't even ask for food without using the scream that God gave you. But as you've grown, learned, and developed, you began getting free from that dependence. Soon you could hold your own bottle. You learned to crawl and before long, you were walking...

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TUESDAY—JULY 7

*Job 34-35; Acts 14:1-21*

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

*1 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.*

**#1. The Cyclical Emotions.** It will help you to know that feelings tend to go from high to low to high to low. "Big deal," you say, "what does that mean?" It means that when you are depressed and unhappy, when nothing is going right and life doesn't seem worth living, just hang around for a few days. You won't remain depressed very long. Your circumstances will change, and the sun will rise again. Sooner or later you'll wake up one morning and be glad you are alive. You'll bounce out of bed and whistle at the birds and wave at the flowers. But I must warn you that positive feelings don't continue either. Few people stay extremely happy or depressed for very long. The usual pattern of emotions move up and down. Emotions can be affected by your health, how much sleep you get, or how things are going in your life. The world is not often how it appears. Our emotions can distort the true picture. So be aware that feelings are unstable.

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WEDNESDAY—JULY 8

*Job 36-37; Acts 15:22-41*

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

*2 Corinthians 10:5 - Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;*

**#2. Unreliable Impressions.** You need to be aware of the danger of impressions. An impression is an inner thought that you believe something comes from God or somewhere unknown. Random thoughts can just pop into your mind, and you may be tempted to give them validity. These impressions can lead you to make wrong decisions. Some impressions may lead you to get married suddenly, or move to another town, or quit school, or join the military. When these strange thoughts and feelings come, just remember that God rarely makes demands that require instant change. Give yourself time to look at all sides of the issue. The more important the decision, the more carefully you should review the facts.

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THURSDAY—JULY 9

*Job 38-39; Acts 16:1-21*

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

*Ephesians 1:8 Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; 9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself:*

**How to Know God's Will.** How can a young person know the will of God in a particular situation? How can he tell the difference between a spooky feeling and the genuine leading of the Lord? Here are a few suggestions—(A) Share what you are thinking with someone in whom you have confidence. (B) Read the Bible for direction. God will talk to you through His Scriptures. He will never ask you to do something that will contradict His Word. (C) Watch to see which doors open and which doors slam shut. If God is leading you, He'll create opportunities for you to do what He wants. (D) Give yourself time to think. Never make a big decision in the state of confusion. When you are not sure what to do, avoid the final decision for as long as possible. (E) Pray for God's guidance. Many "impulses" are simply a result of being a teenager. Be cautious.

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