



Young Teens Promotion Sunday 2021

When the apostle Paul addressed young Timothy to encourage him in the work of the Lord, he wrote in 2 Tim 3:15 "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." What a privileged childhood Timothy experienced to be brought up under godly tutelage of both grandmother Lois and mother Eunice from a young and tender age. Although not explicitly stated in Paul's epistle it can be clearly inferred that he was taught the gospel and grace of Jesus Christ by both godly grandmother and mother. This we see from 2 Tim 1:5 "When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also." So we know that from a young age Timothy had received instruction in Christ which resulted in saving faith. This gift of God (wisdom unto salvation or knowledge of the gospel) is the most precious gift that any believing parent must be the faithful custodian of.

From the Old Testament times, Jewish parents were expected of Jehovah to faithfully rehearse the teachings of the faith to their children. We see this in **Deuteronomy 6:5-9:**

⁵ And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. ⁶ And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: ⁷ And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. ⁸ And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. ⁹ And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

As all parents desire their children to be prosperous and successful in life, so our Heavenly Father desires the same for us. God has given us the formula for that which is found in the following passages of

Joshua 1:8:

“This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.”

Psalm 1:1-3

¹ Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. ²But his delight is in the law of the Lord ; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. ³ And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Then in the New Testament,

Matthew 6:33

“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

2 Timothy 3:16-17

¹⁶ All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: ¹⁷ That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Today many parents desiring that their children prosper and succeed have allowed their children to be put under the rigours of multiple tuitions of Chinese, mathematics, sciences, and enrichment classes such that apart from the demands of school work and these supplementary classes many of our children are left with only about 4 hours to sleep. (this information is from talks with teenagers in our church). I suspect some time is spent playing online games as well. The result is chronic fatigue, physical and emotional strain.

Consequently our young ones own a lean spiritual life because little or no time is left for the reading and meditating on the Word of God and prayer. And even if and when our children make the effort to read the bible, they can barely stay awake! Weekends are used to catch up on sleep, CCA and further tuition. For many teens there is no time set aside for fellowship meetings on Saturdays. If this sounds like a description of our own lives, may I urge us to rethink our ways and priorities. Will we trust God's way or the world's way to achieve prosperity and good success for our next generation and ourselves?

I am in no way prescribing mediocre academic efforts, in fact the bible gives instructions in

Ecclesiastes 9:10

“Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.”

And in Colossians 3:23-24

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.

As students, we should employ our best efforts in our studies to glorify God but we must not allow our studies to displace our commitment and devotion to God. Worshipping God on Sundays, attending Sunday School class and fellowship must not be neglected. The Life Teens Fellowship and Youth Fellowship provide good opportunities to learn more about God, to practice Christian virtues whilst allowing the development of godly relationships with likeminded teens and young adults. More importantly, God is pleased when believers come together to fellowship in His name.

Hebrews 10:24-25

²⁴ And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:
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.

Malachi 3:16-17

¹⁶ Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. ¹⁷ And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

The bible's description of a life of prosperity and good success apart from enjoying the fruit of our labours is in experiencing joy in the Lord, knowing that one is living in obedience to God and living in the perfect will of God. The Lord is faithful and is willing and ready to bless those who put Him first.

Hebrews 11:6:

But without faith it is impossible to please him : for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Romans 12:1-2:

¹... I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 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.

Dare we put our trust and faith in Jesus? He has never failed those who've put their trust in Him. May I encourage all our children to put Jesus first in your lives. To put in your best efforts as students for his glory. And may all parents in Life church be like Lois and Eunice to nurture and encourage our children to put their faith in Jesus. May God help us to honour and to glorify Him.

Dn Terence Tan
Young Teens Department Superintendent

Young Teens Testimonies

Sec 1 Combined Class

Su-Anne Heng

The lesson on the zeal of Christ has impacted me a lot.

When I first committed myself to God, I was very zealous. But after a while, I realised that I was slowly becoming less passionate about God. After the lesson about zeal, I learnt that I should always be fighting for God and should be zealous about God. I learnt from Christ's example how He was zealous for God. He got angry at the temple because others disrespected God.

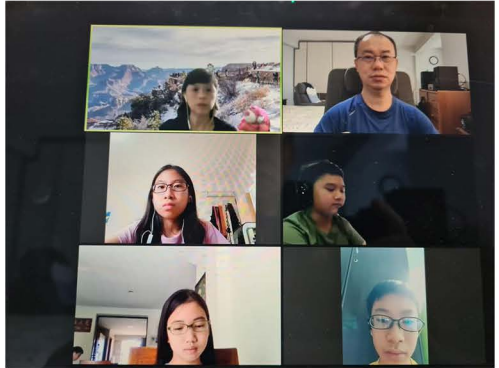
I hope to grow in faith and to be more like Christ. I pray that God will help me to fight against sin and be zealous in doing God's work. At the same time, I should be humble and careful of false zeal.

Matthew Wong

The lesson that impacted me the most was the lesson about Christ's birth.

The fact that Jesus came to earth as one of us, a human being, tells me that Jesus did not want to show his power, instead he was humble. The lesson taught me about Jesus' love for us as he came to earth to die for us and to cleanse us from all our sins. It also showed me the attributes of Christ: humbleness, kindness, willing to sacrifice, thoughtful, respectful and caring.

May the Lord help me to learn from Jesus: to be humble, kind and willing to sacrifice for others.



Young Teens Testimonies

Sec 2 boys class

Peter Sam

This year Sunday school has been rather easier than last year to understand, the Old Testament is a lot less complicated to remember with very straightforward lessons. However, some are a bit difficult to apply in real life. Nonetheless, I have enjoyed

learning about the covenants God made with the important men of the past, such as Noah, Abraham and Jacob. The faith they showed and obedience is inspiring and impressive. Also taught in a clear and concise manner by the Teachers, I am very grateful.



Isaac Cheng

I think Sunday school has blessed me in many ways in my everyday life. For example every session I learn more and deeper about the bible that I have never thought of. I will always want to learn more about the bible and look forward to what brother Woon or brother Micheal has to teach us on Sunday.



Sec 2 girls class

Christelle Wong

I have learnt about temptations and how to overcome it during sunday school. It has really helped me cope with my temptations. I also learnt that I should set some time from my day and have my quiet time with God.

Young Teens Testimonies



Sec 3 combined class

Bernice Wibowo

I find Sunday School to be very interesting and good for me as I can learn more about the stories in the Bible and the Word of God which helps to bring me closer to God. The slides that the teachers present during lessons are helpful and easy to understand. Hence, I find Sunday School to be something I can look forward to as I can educate myself more about God.

A significant lesson that I remember learning is about the persecution that Christians around the world face - a lesson prepared by Aunty Marianne. This lesson especially intrigued me as I got to know more about how some Christians do not have the privilege to worship God openly and I feel grateful to be able to do so here in Singapore. This lesson opened my eyes to the problems that other Christians face and it made me more aware of the society that we live in.

Abigail Kusuma

This year's Sunday school taught me more than just the story or lessons. It led me to actually comprehend the deeper meaning beneath the stories in the book of Acts, which we are currently studying. Theological questions start to arise, and they lead me to know the big picture of the whole story, so that each lesson provides me with a reason why the lesson is important and why the story happened. Because of this, I begin to look forward to learning God's Word in Sunday school! I truly look forward to seeing more revelations in the truth of the Bible in the coming lessons.

Young Teens Testimonies



Sec 4 combined class

Isaac Aw

SS was interesting for me, I learnt about the history of the early church in a much more clear manner than reading the bible directly as I couldn't understand everything before. The teachers provided their insight and interpretations of the earlier chapters of the bible and It was informative to me.

Ong Yu Ze

Sunday school has allowed me to learn more about God's word and given me a better understanding while also helping my growth in it.