

Young People in the Service of God

Three worthy examples to follow

1 Timothy 4:12

Joseph, son of Jacob

- Genesis 37:2 – age 17; Genesis 41:46 – second in Egypt – age 30
- See Joseph's:
 - **Strong faith in God**
 - Genesis 39:2-12
 - **Moral courage to flee immorality**
 - **Integrity**
 - **Perseverance in faith**
 - Genesis 39:23, 41:1
 - **Forgiveness, not bitterness**
 - Genesis 50:15-20
- God used Joseph to save Israel – Genesis 50:20

Josiah, king of Judah

- 2 Chronicles 34:1 – 8 years old
- Verse 3 – age 16
 - Sought the God of his father David
- Verse 3 – age 20
 - Purged out false religion
- Verse 8 – age 26
 - Repairing the house of the Lord

Josiah, king of Judah

- 2 Chronicles 34:18-21, 27ff
- See Josiah's:
 - Tender, humble heart – v.19
 - Attention to the words of God – v.18-19
 - Godly influence on all the people, great and small – v.30
 - Commitment – v.31-32
 - Moral courage to tear down false worship and to build up the true – 2 Kings 23
- God used Josiah to restore true worship

Daniel, captive in a foreign land

- ▶ Daniel 1:3-5 – probably 12-15 years old
- ▶ See Daniel's
 - ▶ **Purpose, resolve** – Daniel 1:8
 - ▶ **Unashamed faith in God** – Daniel 2:28, 4:26
 - ▶ **Moral courage to obey God rather than men** – Daniel 6:10-11
- ▶ God used Daniel to declare the one true God to kings of heathen nations

Young People Whom God Used Demonstrated:

- ▶ Humility
- ▶ Great faith
- ▶ Attention to the word of God
- ▶ Commitment, purpose, resolve
- ▶ Virtue – moral courage
- ▶ Fleeing immorality
- ▶ Integrity
- ▶ Perseverance
- ▶ Forgiveness, not bitterness
- ▶ Godly influence
- ▶ Devotion to true worship

Can young people really do this?

Yes, they can!

God uses young people in His service!

To the older:

- ▶ Don't be a stumbling-block to the young.
 - ▶ Matthew 18:5-7
- ▶ Be an example to follow.
 - ▶ 1 Thessalonians 1:6-7
- ▶ Do not discourage the young. Encourage them.
 - ▶ 1 Corinthians 16:10-11
- ▶ Do not look down upon the young.
 - ▶ 1 Timothy 4:12



Young Person, Won't You Too, Like Joseph, Josiah, and Daniel, Be a Willing Servant of God?

“Let no one despise your youth, but
be an example to the believers in
word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in
faith, in purity.”

1 Timothy 4:12