Young People Can Be Useful in the Kingdom

David Banning · Series: **Family**

INTRODUCTION

- I want to say emphatically this evening, brethren, that being young does not exempt somebody from work and service in the kingdom of God.
- Our young people are not simply the church of the future. They are part of the church of today.
- Throughout Bible history, God has always used the young to do critical, important work in his kingdom.

1 God Wants to Use You to Be an Example

1 Timothy 4:12

- Let no one look down on your youthfulness, but rather in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe.
- There is an important way that young people can be an example to others and even to the old.
- There's just something special about seeing young people doing the right thing that says to the rest of us, we better get our act together.
- God wants to use you to be a positive example for other people.

2 God Wants You to Stand Up for What's Right

Philippians 2:14–15

- Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach, in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation among whom you appear as lights in the world.
- He wants you to stand up for what's right and to have the courage not to go along with the crowd.
- Teenagers today need a voice out there somewhere, a bright shining light who's saying you know what? It's not right. And I won't do it.
- If you think it's tough to do that at Boone or Edgewater or Colonial, try Babylon or Egypt.

3 He Needs You to Tell Other People About Jesus Christ

- You know all those sermons on evangelism? They're not just for the older folks. They're for all of us.
- The hearts of your friends right now are the most receptive they will ever be.
- I am absolutely determined that we raise a generation for whom soul winning will be second nature.
- We don't just do that after we turn 18. God needs us all doing that all the time.

4 God Needs You to Be Involved in Serving Other People

Mark 10:42–45

- Whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all.
- Jesus calls us to serve one another. And that doesn't start when you turn 18. That starts when you sign on to be a disciple of Jesus Christ.
- Send a card. Make a call. Sacrifice 30 minutes of sending instant messages one week.

5 God Needs You to Worship Enthusiastically

Romans 12:11

- When we serve the Lord, we have to serve him with a fervent spirit, to be on fire for him and enthusiastic about what we do.
- You need to be enthusiastic about your Bible classes.
- You need to worship your God with enthusiasm because you are his disciples.
- What we're doing is way too important to do something so juvenile.

6 Diligent Bible Students, Involved in the Work of This Church

2 Timothy 3:14–15

- From childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith.
- It's time to grow up in Christ and do that work yourself and become a diligent student of God's word.
- Every one of us, including teenagers, are involved in the group activities that we try to do as a congregation.
- We need you learning and growing to be involved in every facet of what we do. Not just to prepare you for the future, but because of the good you can do for the kingdom of God right now.

THE CHALLENGE

Young people, lastly, it's you and your decision not to skate through the next few years thinking that later's when you serve God, but young people who will get serious about serving God right now. Will you do that?

MY NOTES