

# MESSAGE

Occasion : Youth Sunday  
Date : September 4, 2016

**TITLE : CONSIDERATION FOR THE YOUTH**  
Text/s :

1 John 2:12-14

12 I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake.

13 I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.

14 I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.

KJV

Bible Reading :

Isa 40:28-31

28 Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

29 He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

KJV

Song/s :

---

## INTRODUCTION

1 John 2:12-14

12 I write unto you, little children, because **your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake.**

13 I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because **ye have overcome the wicked one.** I write unto you, little children, because **ye have known the Father.**

14 I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because **ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.**

KJV

1 John 2:1-2

1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

KJV

1 John 2:12-17

12 I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake.

13 I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.

14 I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.

15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.  
KJV

What things are before men:

During childhood days, we are filled with WONDER.

In our schooldays, we are filled with KNOWLEDGE

In our career days, we are filled with SUCCESS.

In our later years, we are filled with sense of SECURITY.

Three considerations are herein presented to the youth:

## **A) The thing about sin, the flesh and the world**

1 John 2:1-2

1 My **little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not.** And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.  
KJV

2 Tim 2:22

22 Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

KJV

Eccl 11:9-10

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.

10 Therefore remove sorrow from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh: for childhood and youth are vanity.

KJV

Rom 7:14-25

14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.

16 If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good.

17 Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

KJV

- Kaya ko to
- Ako ito eh
- Hindi mangyayari yan
- Wag nyo ako pakialaman
- Alam ko ginagawa ko
- Tanggapin nyo ako kung ano ako

1 Tim 6:11

11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

KJV

Ps 119:9

9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

KJV

1 John 1:9-10

9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

KJV

## **B) The thing about knowledge, relationships and self-assertion**

1 John 2:13

13 I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. **I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.**

KJV

Self-assertion – The act of asserting oneself or one own rights, claims, or opinions; the act of asserting one's superiority over others.

**"...ye have known the Father..." But what did that knowledge bring to you?**

**The prodigal also knew his father. But how did he treat him? He knew the privileges he had because of that relationship. But what attitude did he have?**

Luke 15:11-13

11 And he said, A certain man had two sons:

12 And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.

13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

KJV

**He chose to walk not like a son to his father.**

Eph 5:8-17

8 For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:

9 (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)

10 Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.

11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.  
12 For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret.  
13 But all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light.  
14 Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.  
15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,  
16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.  
17 Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.  
KJV

1 Peter 2:9-10

9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:  
10 Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.  
KJV

Phil 2:15

15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;  
KJV

1 John 3:2

2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.  
KJV

1 Peter 1:14-16

14 As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:  
15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;  
16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.  
KJV

2 Cor 6:14-18

14 Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?  
15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?  
16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.  
17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,  
18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.  
KJV

### C) The thing about strength, success and conceit

Conceit – excessive appreciation of one's worth, value or virtue

1 John 2:14

14 I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, **because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.**  
KJV

Consider the pride of the youth with their strength, success, fulfilled dreams

Isa 40:30-31

30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

KJV

Ps 39:5

5 Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity. Selah.

KJV

Phil 2:5-9

5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

KJV

James 4:10

10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

KJV

James 4:6

6 But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

KJV

1 Cor 4:7

7 For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?

KJV

### **A case of strength, success and conceit...**

#### **Consider Steve Jobs and Solomon ---**

##### **Steve Jobs said it plainly during his speech at the Stanford University in 2005:**

"Remembering that I'll be dead soon is the most important tool I've ever encountered to help me make the big choices in life. Because almost everything — all external expectations, all pride, all fear of embarrassment or failure - these things just fall away in the face of death, leaving only what is truly important. Remembering that you are going to die is the best way I know to avoid the trap of thinking you have something to lose. You are already naked. There is no reason not to follow your heart."

##### **The following is, reportedly, words from Steve Jobs...**

"I have come to the pinnacle of success in business.

In the eyes of others, my life has been the symbol of success.

However, apart from work, I have little joy. Finally, my wealth is simply a fact to which I am accustomed.

At this time, lying on the hospital bed and remembering all my life, I realize that all the accolades and riches of which I was once so proud, have become insignificant with my imminent death.

In the dark, when I look at green lights, of the equipment for artificial respiration and feel the buzz of their mechanical sounds, I can feel the breath of my approaching death looming over me.

Only now do I understand that once you accumulate enough money for the rest of your life, you have to pursue objectives that are not related to wealth.

It should be something more important:

For example, stories of love, art, dreams of my childhood.

No, stop pursuing wealth, it can only make a person into a twisted being, just like me.

God has made us one way, we can feel the love in the heart of each of us, and not illusions built by fame or money, like I made in my life, I cannot take them with me.

Only now do I understand that once you accumulate enough money for the rest of your life, you have to pursue objectives that are not related to wealth.

It should be something more important:

For example, stories of love, art, dreams of my childhood.

No, stop pursuing wealth, it can only make a person into a twisted being, just like me.

God has made us one way, we can feel the love in the heart of each of us, and not illusions built by fame or money, like I made in my life, I cannot take them with me.

You, if you have money, you can hire someone to drive your car, but you cannot hire someone to take your illness that is killing you.

Material things lost can be found. But one thing you can never find when you lose: life.

Whatever stage of life where we are right now, at the end we will have to face the day when the curtain falls.

Please treasure your family love, love for your spouse, love for your friends...

Treat everyone well and stay friendly with your neighbours."

### **Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived penned the following words...**

Ecc 11:9-12:1

"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. Therefore remove sorrow from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh: for childhood and youth are vanity. Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them."

- **Both Steve Jobs and Solomon followed their hearts**

Steve Jobs – "There is no reason not to follow your heart."

Solomon –

Ecc 2:4-10

4 I made me great works; I builded me houses; I planted me vineyards:

5 I made me gardens and orchards, and I planted trees in them of all kind of fruits:

6 I made me pools of water, to water therewith the wood that bringeth forth trees:

7 I got me servants and maidens, and had servants born in my house; also I had great possessions of great and small cattle above all that were in Jerusalem before me:

8 I gathered me also silver and gold, and the peculiar treasure of kings and of the provinces: I gat me men singers and women singers, and the delights of the sons of men, as musical instruments, and that of all sorts.

9 So I was great, and increased more than all that were before me in Jerusalem: also my wisdom remained with me.

10 And **whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy**; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was my portion of all my labour.  
KJV

- **Both of them acknowledged that they leave everything at the point of death**

Steve Jobs

"...almost everything — all external expectations, all pride, all fear of embarrassment or failure — these things just fall away in the face of death..."

Solomon – Ecc 2:16

"For there is no remembrance of the wise more than of the fool for ever; seeing that which now is in the days to come shall all be forgotten. And how dieth the wise man? as the fool."

- **Both of them remembered something that became the turning point of their lives**

Steve Jobs

"Remembering that I'll be dead soon is the most important tool I've ever encountered to help me make the big choices in life... Remembering that you are going to die is the best way I know to avoid the trap of thinking you have something to lose. You are already naked..."

Solomon

Eccl 11:9-12:1

"but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment...remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them"

KJV

- **The Great Difference**

Steve Jobs remembered death...

Solomon considered that God will bring him to judgment...Therefore he remembered God!

## **D) The application of all these considerations in one story...**

- The thing about sin, the flesh and the world
- The thing about knowledge, relationship and self-assertion
- The thing about strength, success and conceit

Luke 15:17-24

17 **And when he came to himself**, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

21 And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

22 But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:

23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:

24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.  
KJV