



September 7, 2014

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¹⁶ At one time we thought of Christ merely from a human point of view. How differently we know him now! ¹⁷ This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

2 Corinthians 5:16b-17 (NLT)

New Life for Children and Youth

¹³ One day some parents brought their children to Jesus so he could touch and bless them. But the disciples scolded the parents for bothering him. ¹⁴ When Jesus saw what was happening, he was angry with his disciples. He said to them, “Let the children come to me. Don’t stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children.

¹⁵ I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn’t receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it.” ¹⁶ Then he took the children in his arms and placed his hands on their heads and blessed them.

Mark 10:13-16 (NLT)

- Children and youth are _____ to Jesus
- The majority of believers come to faith prior to age 18

age 4 to 13	- _____%
age 14 to 17	- _____%
age 18 to 21	- _____%
age 22+	- _____%

O Lord, you alone are my hope. I’ve trusted you, O LORD, from childhood.

Psalm 71:5 (NLT)

Our Strategy for Children and Youth

1. Teach them _____

How can a young person stay pure? By obeying your word.... I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.

Psalm 119:9,11 (NLT)

2. Give them opportunities for _____

Then Elkanah returned home to Ramah without Samuel. And the boy served the LORD by assisting Eli the priest.

1 Samuel 2:11 (NLT)

3. Show them the _____ of living for God.

Satisfy us in our earliest youth with your loving-kindness, giving us constant joy to the end of our lives.

Psalm 90:14 (TLB)

4. Invite them to _____ their lives to Jesus

“Let the children come to me. Don’t stop them!”

Mark 10:14b (NLT)

My Next Step Today Is to:

- Accept Jesus as my personal Lord and Savior.
- Pray for the children and youth of our church and community that they would come to know Jesus.
- Be willing to serve in the area of children’s and youth ministries.
- Meditate on and/or memorize Mark 10:14b