

VERSES ON CHILDHOOD

Genesis 1:28 28 Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. And rule over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.

Genesis 8:21 21 The intent of man's heart is evil from his youth (נְעוּרִים).

Exodus 20:12 12 Honour your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land that Yahweh your God gives you.

Exodus 34:7 7 Keeping loyal love for the thousandth generation, forgiving iniquity, offense, and sin, yet by no means clearing the guilty, but visiting the iniquity of the parents upon the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation.

Leviticus 20:9 9 For anyone who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death. He has cursed his father or his mother. His blood is upon him.

Deuteronomy 21:18-21 18 If any man has a stubborn and rebellious son who will not obey his father or his mother, and when they chastise him, he will not even listen to them, 19 then his father and mother will seize (תפשו) him and bring him out to the elders of his city at the gateway of his hometown. 20 They will say to the elders of his city: This son of ours is stubborn and rebellious. He will not obey us. He is a glutton and a drunkard. 21 Then all the men of his city will stone him to death. So you will remove the evil from your midst, and all Israel will hear and fear.

Deuteronomy 27:16 16 Cursed is he who dishonours his father or mother.

1 Samuel 2:11 11 The boy [Samuel] was attending to the service (שרת) of Yahweh before Eli the priest.

1 Samuel 2:21 21 The boy Samuel grew up (גדל) with Yahweh (עם־יהוה).

1 Samuel 2:26 26 The boy Samuel was growing both in greatness (גִּדּוֹל) and goodness (טוֹב), both with Yahweh (עם־יהוה) and also with men (עם־אֲנָשִׁים).

1 Samuel 3:19-20 19 Samuel grew, and Yahweh was with him and let none of his words fail. 20 All Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was confirmed as a prophet of Yahweh.

1 Samuel 17:32-37 32 David said to Saul: Let no man's heart fail on account of [Goliath]. Your servant will go and fight with this Philistine. 33 Then Saul said to David: You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him, for you are but a youth (נָעַר) while he has been a warrior from his youth. 34 But David said to Saul: Your servant was tending his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and took a lamb from the flock, 35 I went out after him, attacked him, and rescued it from his mouth. And when he rose up against me, I seized him by his beard, struck him, and killed him. 36 Your servant has killed both the lion and the

bear, and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them because he has taunted the armies of the living God. 37 And David said: Yahweh who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, he will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.

1 Kings 3:7-10 7 Now, Yahweh my God, you have made your servant [Solomon] king in place of my father David, yet I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. 8 Your servant is in the midst of your people that you have chosen, a great people who are too many to be numbered or counted. 9 So give your servant an understanding heart to judge your people, to discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of yours? 10 It was pleasing in the sight of Yahweh that Solomon had asked this thing.

1 Kings 11:6 6 Solomon did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh and did not follow Yahweh fully, as David his father had done.

2 Kings 14:5-6 5 ...Fathers shall not be put to death because of their children, nor shall children be put to death because of their fathers. But each one shall die for his own sin.¹

Psalms 22:9-10 9 You are he who brought me [David] forth from the womb. You made me trust on my mother's breasts. 10 Upon you I was cast from birth. You have been my God from my mother's womb.

Psalms 25:7 7 Do not remember the sins of my youth (נְעוּרַיִם) or my offences. According to your loyal love (חַסְדֶּךָ) remember me [David], for your goodness' (טוֹב) sake, Yahweh.

Psalms 27:10 10 My father and my mother have abandoned (עָזַב) me, but Yahweh will receive (אָסַף) me.

Psalms 34:11 11 Come, you children, listen to me. I will teach you the fear of Yahweh.

Psalms 71:5-6 5 You are my hope (תִּקְוָה), Lord Yahweh, my trust (מִבְטָחַי) from the time of my youth (נְעוּרַיִם). 6 By you I have been sustained from birth. You are he who took me from my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.

Psalms 71:17 17 God, you have taught (לִמַּד) me from my time of youth (נְעוּרַיִם), and I still declare (נִגַּד) your wondrous deeds.²

Psalms 119:9 9 How can a young man (נָעַר) keep his way pure? By keeping it according to your word.

Psalms 119:99-100 99 I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation. 100 I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.

¹ Ultimately, parents and children are responsible for their own individual destiny.

² "Father, please teach our children from the time of their youth, that they may declare your wondrous deeds for a lifetime."

Psalms 127:3-5 3 Behold, children are an inheritance from Yahweh, the fruit of the womb a reward. 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. 5 Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them! He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.

Psalms 131:2 2 I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother. Like a weaned child is my soul within me.

Psalms 144:12 12 May our sons in their youth be like plants full grown, our daughters like corner pillars cut for the structure of a palace.

Proverbs 1:1-4 1 The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel: 2 To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight, 3 to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity, 4 to give prudence to the simple, knowledge and discretion to the youth.

Proverbs 1:8-9 8 Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching, 9 for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck.

Proverbs 4:1-5 1 Hear, sons, a father's instruction, and be attentive, that you may gain insight, 2 for I give you good precepts. Do not forsake my teaching. 3 When I was a son with my father, tender, the only one in the sight of my mother, 4 he taught me and said to me, Let your heart hold fast my words. Keep my commandments and live. 5 Get wisdom. Get insight. Do not forget and do not turn away from the words of my mouth.

Proverbs 6:20 20 My son, keep your father's commandment, and forsake not your mother's teaching.

Proverbs 20:11 11 Even a child makes himself known by his acts, by whether his conduct is pure and upright.

Proverbs 23:22 22 Listen to your father who gave you life, and do not despise your mother when she is old.

Ecclesiastes 11:9-10 9 Rejoice, young man, in your youth, and let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth. Walk in the ways of your heart and the sight of your eyes. But know that for all these things God will bring you into judgment. 10 Remove vexation from your heart, and put away pain from your body, for youth and the dawn of life are vanity.

Ecclesiastes 12:1 1 Remember...your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near of which you will say, I have no pleasure in them.

Lamentations 3:27 27 It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.

Ezekiel 18:2-4 2 What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge? 3 As I live,

declares Lord Yahweh, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. 4 Behold, all souls are mine. The soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine. The soul who sins shall die.

Zechariah 8:5 5 The streets of the city [Jerusalem] shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets.

Malachi 1:6 6 A son honours his father, and a servant his master. If then I am a father, where is my honor? And if I am a master, where is my fear? says Yahweh of hosts to you, priests, who despise my name.

Matthew 4:21-22 21 [Jesus] saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. 22 Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Matthew 15:4-6 4 God commanded, Honor your father and your mother, and, Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die. 5 But you say, If anyone tells his father or his mother, What you would have gained from me is given to God, 6 he need not honor his father. So for the sake of your tradition you have made void the word of God.

Matthew 18:1-10 1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven? 2 And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them 3 and said, Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5 Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, 6 but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. ... 10 See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 19:13-15 13 Children were brought to [Jesus] that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, 14 but Jesus said, Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven. 15 And he laid his hands on them.

Mark 9:36-37 36 And [Jesus] took a child and put him in the midst of [the disciples], and taking him in his arms, he said to them, 37 Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.

Luke 1:80 80 The child [John] grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

Luke 2:40 40 The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Luke 2:51-52 51 And [Jesus] went down with [his parents] and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature, and in favour with God and man.

1 Corinthians 13:11 11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways.

1 Corinthians 14:20 20 Brothers and sisters, do not be children in your thinking. Be infants in evil, but in your thinking be mature.

Ephesians 4:13-14 13 ...Until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Messiah, 14 so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

Ephesians 6:1-3 1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 Honor your father and mother (this is the first commandment with a promise), 3 that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land.

Colossians 3:20 20 Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord.

1 Timothy 4:12 12 Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

1 Timothy 5:4-8 4 If a widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show godliness to their own household and to make some return to their parents, for this is pleasing in the sight of God. ...8 But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

2 Timothy 2:22 22 Flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

2 Timothy 3:14-15 14 As for you [Timothy], continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it 15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Messiah Jesus.

Titus 2:6 6 Urge the younger men to be self-controlled.

Hebrews 5:12-13 12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, 13 for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, because he is a child.

1 Peter 5:5 5 You who are younger, be subject to the elders.