

Young People in the Church

1. Young people need to grow up, become Christians, and be a faithful member of a local church of Christ.

2. Present. Young people need to be present in the assembly for worship (Heb. 10:24-25). Do not allow sports, recreation, vacation, friends, etc., keep you from coming to worship the Lord. Put God's kingdom first and these other things second (Mt. 6:33).

3. Proper. Young people need to behave properly in the worship assembly because we are in God's presence (Psa. 95:6-7) and because we are remembering Jesus' death (1 Cor. 11:25-27). They need to be "sober-minded" and serious in the assembly (1 Tim. 4:12; Tit. 2:5-6). When young Christians misbehave in the assembly – talking, laughing, joking, looking around, punching, sleeping, passing notes, bored, etc. – it reveals something about their character. Young people who misbehave reveal a lack of maturity on their part: 1) it reveals a lack of respect for the speaker or teacher (Jas. 1:19-21); 2) it reveals a lack of respect for their parents (Eph. 6:1); 3) it reveals a lack of respect for those sitting nearby (Mt. 7:12); 4) it reveals a lack of respect for God (Jn. 4:24).

4. Preparation. Young people need to have their Bible class lesson prepared (Psa. 78:1-6; 119:9-16; 2 Tim. 3:15-17). Do not allow activities throughout the week to keep you from preparing your lesson.

5. Participation. Young Christians need to be active in the local church (Eph. 4:16).

Young Christian women are needed urgently (Prov. 31:28-30). They can teach children's classes, do good works in and out of the church building, and be good mothers and wives (1 Tim. 2:9-10; 5:14; 1 Pet. 3:3-4; Tit. 2:4-5).

Young Christian men are needed urgently (Psa. 12:1). They can take part in the service (song leader, wait on the Lord's table, make announcements, lead prayer), do good works in and out of the church building, and develop themselves to be preachers, teachers, elders, and deacons (Tit. 2:6-7).

6. Proven. Young Christians need to be loyal to the local church (Acts 2:42). Do not be lukewarm and indifferent (Rev. 3:1, 16). Be strong (1 Jn. 2:12-14).