

**"THOU ART BUT A  
YOUTH"**

**1 Samuel 17:33**

### God's Use Of Young People

- ▣ **David: To deliver Israel from the Philistines ...**
  - Even though he (David) was *"but a youth."* - **1 Samuel 17:33**

### God's Use Of Young People

- ▣ **Joseph: To save Israel in time of famine ...**
  - Joseph seventeen when sold as a slave to Potiphar. **Genesis 37:2**

### God's Use Of Young People

- ▣ **Josiah: To restore Judah to the true worship of God ...**
  - When eight, Josiah became king - **2 Chronicles 34:1-2**
  - When sixteen, he sought to serve God - **2 Chronicles 34:3**
  - When twenty, he instituted religious reforms throughout Judah - **2 Chronicles 34:3**
  - When twenty-six, he restored the temple, and the Passover - **2 Chronicles 34:8; 35:18-19**

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- ▣ **Daniel: To reveal the sovereignty of God over the nations ...**
  - Daniel, was possibly twelve to fifteen when taken into Babylonian captivity - **Daniel 1:3-5**
  - He was fifteen to eighteen when brought to Nebuchadnezzar and began serving as his counselor - **Daniel 1:18-20**

### God's Use Of Young People

- ▣ **Timothy: To proclaim the gospel to the lost ...**
  - Selected by Paul to join him on his journeys - **Acts 16:1-3**
  - Twenty years later that Paul tells him to let no one despise his youth! - **1 Timothy 4:12; Philippians 2:20**

## “THOU ART BUT A YOUTH”

1 Samuel 17:33

### The Kind Of Young People God Can Use

- ▣ Those willing to flee immorality
  - Joseph - **Genesis 39:7-12**
  - Timothy - **2 Timothy 2:22**

### The Kind Of Young People God Can Use

- ▣ Those willing to trust in God ...
  - David cf. **1 Samuel 17:37, 45-47**
  - David later said, -  
*“As for God, his way is perfect: The word of Jehovah is tried; He is a shield unto all them that take refuge in him.” 2 Samuel 22:31*

### The Kind Of Young People God Can Use

- ▣ Those willing to seek the Lord with humility ...
  - Josiah, when he was eight years old  
 - **2 Chronicles 34:3; cf. verses 26-28**

### The Kind Of Young People God Can Use

- ▣ Those willing to be true to their convictions...
  - Daniel, who refused to compromise his beliefs - **Daniel 1:8-9**
  - Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego - **Daniel 3:1-6, 17, 20-21, 25**

### Our Responsibility To The Young

- ▣ Don't place stumbling blocks in their way ... **Matthew 18:5-7**
- ▣ Encourage them ... **1 Corinthians 16:10-11**
- ▣ Despise them not ... **1 Timothy 4:12**

## Conclusion

- ▣ Jesus was 12 when he was about his Father's business.  
- **Luke 2:41-49**
- ▣ **Are we about our Father's business?**