Great Expectations: Embracing a Massive, Christ-Exalting Vision for the Young People that You Serve

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Introduction: What are you expecting from your young people?		
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Biblical Overview of Young People mightily used of God

*Throughout scripture - God's way has always been to call ordinary young people to do hard things through His power for His glory:

- 1. Joseph—17 yrs. old (Gen. 39:9)
 - Rejected sexual sin when alone with an older woman!
- 2. Samuel—13 yrs old (I Sam. 3:1)
 - Spoke hard truth to adopted father Eli, as a prophet, for God's glory!
- 3. David—15 years old (I Samuel 17)
 - Slayed Goliath for the honor of God's name!
- 4. Esther—as a young woman (Esther 2:15)
 - Risked her head before the king for the sake of God's people!
- 5. Josiah—16 yrs. old (2 Chron. 34:2-3)
 - Lived righteous before the Lord (8 yrs. old) as King of Judah and pursued hard after God (16 yrs. old)!
- 6. **Daniel**—14 yrs old (Daniel 1:8)
 - Resolved to remain pure in an evil culture for God's glory!
- 7. Mary—16 yrs old (Luke 1:26-31)
 - Remained a virgin and trusted God's crazy promise of a Holy Spirit conception to birth the Son of God!

Warning from a Wise King!

*5 warnings from Solomon (who said, *"Remember, worship, serve while young"!* (Eccl. 12:1) to encourage youth to answer God's call <u>here and now</u>, while they are young instead of waiting until later:

1. You might die young! (Eccl. 7:17) 2. Your strongest years are wasted when you wait! (Eccl. 12:3) 3. Your life young or old is utter nothingness without God! (Eccl. 11:10) 4. Your heart may likely get harder, not softer as you get older! (Eccl. 12:1) 5. You will be judged for these wasted years! (Eccl. 11:9)