

The Life Core

The Source of Life & The Life Core

#29

Supporting Young Believers

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Supporting Young Believers

- Teen has different needs
- Readyng him or her for spiritual adulthood
- He has focuses us on the aspects of struggle, temptation and learning from God's Word.



Readyng for combat

"I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one....I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one" (1 John 2:13-14).

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Ephesians 6:11-12

- All believers encounter the challenges of this stage
- The trials form the training gym
- Proper new care provides the right perspective that God is always near to help them
- Doubts easily lead to discouragement and defeat, which brings despair.

Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places (Ephesians 6:11-12).

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The needs of the young believer

- They all are on a journey
- We all help them identify where they are at
- Dangers of comparison but really comparing with our goal
- Go from spoon fed to self-feeding (eating right thing!)
- Inductive Bible studies help them integrate God's Word into their spiritual lives and stepping stone for help others



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The goals for the young believer

- (1) Spiritually nurture themselves with God's Word (e.g. regular and helpful quiet times).
- (2) Comprehend key teaching from God's Word regarding areas such as victory over the devil through Jesus Christ's work on the cross.
- (3) Consistently discern and overcome temptations that come into their lives.

(1) Spiritually nurture themselves with God's Word (e.g. regular and helpful quiet times).

(2) Comprehend key teaching from God's Word regarding areas such as victory over the devil through Jesus Christ's work on the cross.

(3) Consistently discern and overcome

Never waste a situation!

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Raising up godly mentors

- D2: Reaching Beyond Mediocrity shows the process to overcome
 - Finding a godly mentor/teacher who believes we have overcome the evil one
 - Remember counseling courses and reading many pastoral training books to help me gain confidence so I could personally grow in the areas in which I was struggling.
 - Without a history of overcoming, mentors have no message of hope to offer but only unbelief and cover-up
- The 'victim' mentality presupposes there is no way of winning.

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Giving the greater vision

- The chart stirs teachers as well as believers to see where they were, where they are, and where they are going.
- Drugs and counselors have undermined the confidence of repentance and growth
- Without faith in God's work at each stage, we will not reach the end goal of full maturity.
- Our faith in God's work in us will keep us from giving up.

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Our Lessons

- The young believer has a different growth trajectory than the new believer.
- The young believer must learn how to nurture himself in God's Word so that he can overcome a variety of temptations.
- There is a crisis in the church because older believers are not convinced that they can overcome any and every temptation (they have not grown through this stage).
- Although the steps to overcoming temptation are fundamental, young believers along with their trainers often cannot clearly delineate how to do this, and so believers sink into an unbelieving, lukewarm state.

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Application

➡ Why do you think you are or are not a young believer? Give some reasons.

➡ How well are you equipped to train a young believer to overcome every sort of temptation?

➡ Are there areas that you have not overcome or would not know how to help someone else? What are they? Ask the Lord to restore your belief that His people can overcome, and to show you how God's people can do this.

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