

*What the teenager needs to know*



*WHAT THE TEENAGER  
NEEDS TO KNOW*



*Ministério Seara Ágape  
Ensino Bíblico Evangélico*

*Tânia Cristina Giachetti  
São Paulo – SP – Brazil*

<https://www.searaagape.com.br/livrosevangelicosonline.html>

This book brings topics of interest to teens and answers from the Gospel to their most frequently asked questions: friendships, rejection, dating and sex, to take care of the body (cigarette, drugs, drinking, tattoos, piercing, poor diet, lack of exercise or excessive exercise, wounds), bullying, music and parties (nightclubs), profession, politeness and social attitudes and the Rapture of the Church. Jesus is calling you. Here you'll find testimonies, a prayer of surrender to Jesus and a message from Him to you.

I thank the Lord for His wisdom and His love, because as a Father He knows how to take care of children, more than anyone else.

I dedicate this work to teenagers who often feel insecure in this fallen world full of snares of the enemy and who want to know and walk with Jesus in holiness.

## Friendships



When we walk with Jesus, things are very clear because the Holy Spirit teaches us what is right and wrong, including what kind of company we should have. Stay away from people who don't believe in God, who scoff at His word, who like ugly things and dress in weird and ugly ways and are constantly summoning demons or going to spend the night in cemeteries like Goths do. What they do is attract demons into their lives. Beware! Although we must respect the religious choice of all people, we can choose what is good for us or not, right? We must also stay away from drunkards and those who lie and say swear words, for this destroys our soul and pollutes our mind. We must influence in a good way those people who are in error, but not let ourselves be influenced by their bad habits. Sin does not inherit the kingdom of God.

“Do not be misled: ‘Bad company corrupts good character.’ Come back to your senses as you ought, and stop sinning; for there are some who are ignorant of God — I say this to your shame” (1 Cor. 15: 33-34).

Read this testimony:

When I was working in a medical clinic, I saw a beautiful sixteen-year-old girl who came to the appointment with a friend of the same age. She said she had been sick for the past few weeks and was suspicious of pregnancy. She came all dressed in black, with purple lipstick on her lips, eyes outlined in black and those metal medallions, typical of Goths. She was not pregnant, but had a drop in blood sugar due to her spiritual situation. She came to the appointment again and I spoke about Jesus; she understood where the problem was and said a prayer of surrender with me. One day she returned to the clinic with a seizure. I saw the girl held by the arms and legs by the hands of nurses and doctors, kicking everyone extremely aggressively and saying, “Let me go, I don’t want to go with you, I don’t want to go with you.” The mother herself saw that she was possessed. The girl was given medication to stop the seizure. In fact, she was manifesting demons. I cast out all those demons, and when she regained consciousness, I had a serious conversation with her about everything I had taught her and she hadn’t obeyed. I also talked about going to church and the need to be baptized in water, and she agreed. The three of us arrived at the church and waited for the service and for the time of the call for baptism. At the time of the appeal she stood up and said, “I’m not sure what this is yet; I need to ask my father first.” She didn’t ask her father’s permission to do nonsense, but now she didn’t want to commit to Jesus, who was the only one able to rid her of the demons. The girl had thrown away the chance God had given her to break free; her father could never choose salvation for her. Her mother got up in frustration and led her daughter out of the church. Many months later, she came to the clinic and told me that her symptoms were better, but she hadn’t made her decision yet; she kept doing the wrong spiritual things. Many times later I thought of her, and one night the Lord gave me a dream to

comfort my heart: I saw her among young people, dressed in pink, praising the Lord.

## Rejection



What does God's Word say about rejection?

The word of the Lord does not lie. He made you with all the affection in your mother's womb. So always say nice things to yourself when looking at the mirror. It's not a joke! Say that you are beautiful, intelligent, loved by Jesus, so that you will be truly loved by other people too. Most of the time teenagers are fooled by the devil, saying they are not loved; so they grow up with a distortion of their self-image. You are loved by God and set apart to be His. Ask Jesus to show his love for you. Remember the cross. Do you want more proof of love than this? Throw away anger and bad feelings. Jesus has the power to give you the right self-esteem. You will grow strong and secure, because God has great projects for your life.

Sometimes, the adolescent may have a depressive condition of organic origin, so they should be taken to the doctor for evaluation. The tendency to commit suicide, often resulting from depression and rejection, must be treated, there

is no doubt, but remember that you are someone very important to God and that your life is precious to Him. Jesus is life. Come to Him and experience life. Don't take that kind of attitude; not worth it.

“Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me” (Isa. 49: 15-16).

“I took you from the ends of the earth, from its farthest corners I called you. I said, ‘You are my servant’; I have chosen you and have not rejected you. So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand” (Isa. 41: 9-10).

## Dating and sex in adolescence



Cool! You like someone, don't you? Is it your first boyfriend (girlfriend)? Don't feel insecure about loving someone, because love is good. Dating is a time to get to know someone until we are sure she is the person we want to marry and start a family with. What God planned for man and woman was marriage, to

have a legal and blessed family. If Jesus is in your heart and you are used to reading the bible, you will not make mistakes in your choices. Pray now that the Lord will prepare a wife or husband for you, that you fear Him and love Him above all and follow the ways of God. Did you understand? It is not necessary to hurry. Wait for the right age and the right person for you to get married and have a blessed family. Don't do rash things now that will make you regret it later. God made man and woman and said, "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female', and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh?' So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate (Matt. 19: 4-6)."



The holy dating for God is the one who has true love and respects His laws and the right time for all things. Sex outside of marriage (called fornication) is a sin before God because there is no commitment, only the command of the person's flesh, instincts and wishes. There are other types of sin in the sexual area, which are abnormal things for God, such as prostitution (sexual promiscuity, where several partners intertwine in the relationship), debauchery (meaning

wantonness; indiscipline; sex without rules; sensuality), homosexuality (love between two men; both active and passive homosexuals), lesbianism (love between two women), incest (sex between parents and children or between siblings), narcissism (excessive self-love; sexual desire turns to oneself) and other sexual misrepresentations and compulsions that only open gaps for the enemy's devastation. Have you ever thought that kissing and sexual intercourse with people you don't know very well can transmit unwanted diseases such as syphilis, AIDS etc.? Another thing that can happen when you have sex is pregnancy, and you, girl, can get pregnant unintentionally or unplanned, because you haven't married yet and you don't know if that guy is the right one for you. What's up? Have you ever thought about how this could end? Afterwards, it will be even worse if you want to abort the baby! Do not even think about it.



Another thing for you to think about: many people decide to live together for many years without getting married legally in order not to commit to a normal marriage. Sometimes they even decide not to have children, or even decide to live in their own house and see each other when they think it's good to be together just to make love. But think now about the implications of this type of relationship for your future, when you are in your sixties

and can no longer have children. You will look back and understand that the devil has robbed you of the chance to have a family, with your spouse by your side, with children and grandchildren who could now be giving you joy. If the person you lived with for so long died, you will now be alone and it's harder at this age to redo your love life the right way. The two of you lived selfish lives for many years, but you didn't really share anything and left no good fruit. Think about it. What will your choice be? Everything we do today has a consequence tomorrow.



As for masturbation, the bible doesn't make anything explicit. It just says in Ecc 7: 20: "There is not a righteous man on earth who does what is right and never sins." Although masturbation is often due to lack of affection and psychological and hormonal factors that occur in this phase of self-discovery, it should not be highly valued or encouraged so as not to generate another type of problem later on, such as compulsion. Human beings sometimes need to make use of this resource to meet their needs, but it was not what God intended as sexual fullness for human beings. This was the remnant of Adam and Eve's sin and is part of human nature. Just pray and let nature take its course. When this happens, ask God for dominion over

the flesh and seek to channel the energy into other areas such as arts, sports or group work, dancing or joining your church's youth group, etc., or may He prepare a suitable companion for you to get married.



Also avoid watching pornographic movies and changing sex, if you know what I mean. God made man and woman, but not a third sex. This is the devil's work to destroy a life. This type of person does not enter heaven. So, leave it aside.

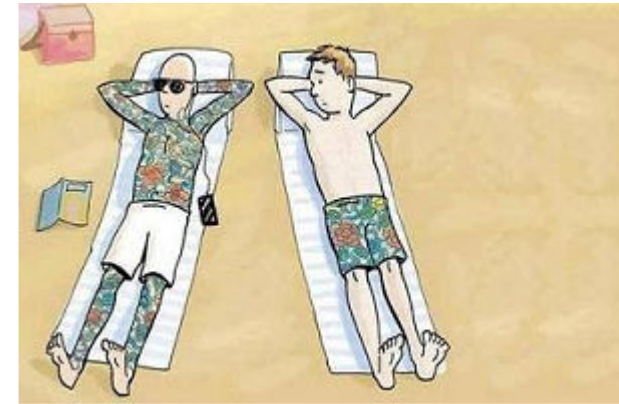
"Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. "Everything is permissible for me" — but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me" — but I will not be mastered by anything (1 Cor. 6: 9-12)."

It is worth commenting here on what the bible calls the works of the flesh (Gal. 5: 19-21 – NIV):

“The acts of the sinful nature [NRSV: the works of the flesh] are obvious: sexual immorality [NRSV: fornication], impurity and debauchery [NRSV: licentiousness]; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred [NRSV: enmities], discord [NRSV: strife], jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition [NRSV: quarrels], dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies [NRSV: carousing], and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God” (cf. 1 Sam. 15: 22-23; 1 Cor. 6: 9-11; Eph. 5: 3-7; Col. 3: 5).

- Debauchery means: indiscipline; sex without rules; sensuality.
- Idolatry is putting on the altar other things and entities other than Jesus, the Son of God. Greed is considered by God as idolatry (Eph. 5: 5 and Col. 3: 5), as well as stubbornness [NIV: arrogance] (1 Sam 15: 22-23).
- Sorcery includes all acts of rebellion against God’s will such as all acts of occultism, sympathies, superstitions, occult arts of divination and prediction of the future, necromancy, etc., which do not lead us to believe solely in the power of the Word to achieve something . Rebellion is considered by God as witchcraft (1 Sam 15: 22-23; Lev 20: 27).
  - Discord means: discussion or contention of words, controversy, rivalry and dispute.
  - Dissension means: divergence of opinion or interests, disagreement, opposition.
  - Faction is a divergent or dissident part of a group or party, uprising, mutiny.
  - Envy is not just about wanting what belongs to the other; worse than that; it’s to want to be the other person.

## To take care of the body



God made us to show His glory through us. He has put a spirit within us and given us life, and he wants us to have a healthy and beautiful body. He is not pleased to see anyone, not even ourselves, destroying our bodies with anything: with cigarettes, drugs, drinking, tattoos, piercing, poor diet, lack of exercise or excessive exercise, or making wounds in ourselves because we don’t like our bodies or because we don’t feel loved by parents, friends, or boyfriends. Jesus is not pleased with any of this. He wants us to take good care of our bodies with proper nutrition, hygiene, exercise and sleeping on time. This is a discipline we must acquire in order for us to be in good health later. “Do not cut your bodies for the dead or put tattoo marks on yourselves. I am the LORD (Lev. 19: 28).” Ancient peoples used to be hurt because of the dead, but God was not pleased with it; even more today that we have knowledge of Jesus! This warning from God about making marks on the body is also valid for tattooing. Our skin must be clean as God created it because staining it with ugly designs is a sin.

“Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit lives in you? If anyone destroys God’s temple,

God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and you are that temple" (1 Cor. 3: 16-17).



Inadequate diet, anorexia (lack or loss of appetite for food; underweight, fear of gaining weight; going without eating to avoid getting fat, sometimes exercising excessively, or even causing vomiting or taking laxatives to lose weight), bulimia (eating, eating, and then vomiting so as not to get fat; sometimes taking laxatives. Bulimia is usually accompanied by depression) are more than psychological problems; they reflect the lack of self-love and are the mirror of the lack of God. Whoever has Jesus loves oneself and takes care of oneself.

### **Drugs**

Stay away from drugs, drinking and other bad habits that only drive you further and further away from God and destroy your body. Drugs such as marijuana, cocaine and crack affect every organ in the body, especially the brain, heart and lungs, leading to irreversible brain damage and even sudden death. It is not worth pursuing this kind of pleasure and joy, as it leads to death and also destroys the lives of those who are by your side. There are drugs that are even more damaging to the brain,

causing a person to behave practically like an animal, without any notion that he (she) exists, before killing him (her). The most important thing to be said is that the enemy uses all of this to act as he always does: "steal, kill and destroy."

Read this testimony to see what Jesus is able to do to save all who fall into sin:

I once attended a 14-year-old girl, who came into the office asking me for a blood test to confirm the pregnancy, as I suspected it, but was soon saying that her option had already been taken: she would abort anyway. I started talking to her and was even more surprised to learn that she was drugging herself with injectable cocaine. The boyfriend also did the same. I told her about Jesus and learned that she had been rejected by her mother from the womb. Now she was repeating the same attitude towards the innocent baby she was carrying in her womb. She understood the problem, God's anointing touched her soul and she gave her life to Jesus at that moment. I put my hand over the girl's belly, broke the curses of sentence and the hereditary curses on that embryo and delivered it into Jesus' hands. She came to the next appointment with the exam in hand, confirming the pregnancy. I referred her to prenatal care and asked if her adoptive mother knew all about it. She was aware of it and was at the clinic. I asked her to call her adoptive mother and she walked into the room. Her face was both sad and filled with anger and hatred for the girl's behavior, for she never expected her to respond with ingratitude to the fact that she was adopted with love by those parents. The adoptive brother (son of another mother) was also a troubled boy. The girl's father didn't know anything yet. The girl was in the final year of a technical course and would graduate at the end of the year. The mother, as punishment for what her daughter had done, was determined not to pay for the girl's school anymore. In fact, her wish was to throw her out of the house. I told the mother about Jesus. The



two were quite resentful and hurt with each other. But after two hours of conversation and prayer, the two embraced, releasing forgiveness for each other. A year passed and one day the lady came into my room and asked me if I remembered her. I asked her, “The baby was born well? And how is your daughter?” She replied that everything had gone well and that her granddaughter was born perfect without any congenital malformations, despite her daughter having been drugged with cocaine throughout her pregnancy. Cocaine has a direct toxic action on fetal development, generating low weight, lack of cerebral oxygenation and even malformations such as microcephaly, that is, very small head due to low brain growth; retinal anomalies, lifelong learning difficulties, and even sudden death in newborns; when it is used in an injectable way, it can cause the woman to contract syphilis or AIDS – not only her but also the baby. Now she came to ask me for a referral to a trusted medical group so that her daughter could be drug free, as the girl had learned her lesson and was willing to correct herself. She also wanted guidance for an evangelical church near her home so that the family could begin their walk with God. I did what she asked me to. I never saw them again, but I’m sure the Lord did His work with them and will continue to do so if they correctly exercise their free will. What would happen to that baby if it wasn’t for the consecration to God at that moment? The Lord preserves from evil all those who are His.

“But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit. Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a man commits are outside his body, but he who sins sexually sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at

a price. Therefore honor God with your body” (1 Cor. 6: 17-20).

### **Tattoos and earrings**



When I talked about taking care of the body, I wrote the following verse: “Do not cut your bodies for the dead or put tattoo marks on yourselves. I am the LORD (Lev. 19: 28).” As you have seen, tattooing is not something that God likes. Can you imagine when you are old? That design will still be on your body; he doesn’t go out alone, no.

But now, let’s talk a little bit about earrings for boys and girls. In Antiquity, the earring was a sign of slavery. When a slave was set free but wanted to remain with his lord, this one would take him to the judges and put his ear to the door and pierce it, then put an earring on it, and the slave would serve his master forever. Free men did not have this custom. Spiritually speaking, the earring is a sign of slavery: “If you buy a Hebrew servant, he is to serve you for six years. But in the seventh year, he shall go free, without paying anything. But if the servant declares, ‘I love my master and my wife and children and do not want to go free,’ then his master must take him before the judges. He shall take him to the door or the door-post and pierce

his ear with an awl. Then he will be his servant for life” (Ex. 21: 2; 5-6); “But if your servant says to you, ‘I do not want to leave you,’ because he loves you and your family and is well off with you, then take an awl and push it through his ear lobe into the door, and he will become your servant for life. Do the same for your maidservant” (Deut. 15: 16-17).

Today we have Jesus, and it is not necessary for young boys to wear an earring to say they are different or to draw attention.



What about girls? Is it a sin to wear earrings and wear ornaments? Is it a sin to shave your legs and underarms? Let’s read an OT passage where God compares the Israelite nation to a bride, his bride: “I adorned you with jewellery [NRSV: ornaments]: I put bracelets on your arms and a necklace around your neck, and I put a ring on your nose (cf. Gen. 24: 22; 47), earrings on your ears and a beautiful crown on your head. So you were adorned with gold and silver; your clothes were of fine linen and costly fabric and embroidered cloth. Your food was fine flour, honey and olive oil. You became very beautiful and rose to be a queen. And your fame spread among the nations on account of your beauty, because the splendor I had

given you made your beauty perfect, declares the Sovereign LORD” (Ezek. 16: 11-14).



When the Lord speaks of ornaments, they mean the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit. The bracelet and crown are a symbol of glory and majesty, a symbol of the royalty He wants to see in us and a beautiful way to act, in a way that pleases Him. The necklace is a symbol of grace and mercy with which we are adorned, a symbol of loveliness as well. Pendants and earrings are symbols of voluntary private ownership, as we saw in the case of slaves’ earrings. Women’s earrings are a way of saying that we are Jesus’ property, that it’s beautiful to dress up for Him, but not in the garish way of the world, just to show up. It also doesn’t mean that we need to put a nose piercing. This was and is still a custom among women in the Middle East, Asia and Africa, for other reasons, but it’s not appropriate for us who have the understanding of the person of Jesus in our lives.

Hair removal is not a sin; it is a sign of hygiene, just as we can cut our hair. We don’t need to let it reach our knees to say we’re believers. As children of God we need to be beautiful and love each other in a healthy way. It is pleasing to the Lord and the people around us to see us well-dressed and perfumed. However, as the bible says, we should not make room for sin

(such as vanity) or for certain worldly habits with the excuse that we are free. Dyeing hair green, purple, blue or red is a custom among young people in the world who do not know true freedom in Christ. It's not exactly a sin, but it's weird. And the bible says that everything is permissible but not everything is beneficial. It also says not to love the world, because friendship with the world is hatred towards Jesus:

- “You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred towards God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God” (Jam. 4: 4).

- “Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world — the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does — comes not from the Father but from the world” (1 Jn. 2: 15-16).

- “‘Everything is permissible for me’ — but not everything is beneficial. ‘Everything is permissible for me’ — but I will not be mastered by anything” (1 Cor. 6: 12).

- “‘Everything is permissible’ — but not everything is beneficial. ‘Everything is permissible’ — but not everything is constructive” (1 Cor. 10: 23).

## **Bullying**

“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you” (Jn. 15: 12).

“Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love” (1 Jn. 4: 8).

“The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective” (Jam. 5: 16b).



For those who don't know, bullying is acts of physical or psychological violence, repeated and intentionally practiced by a person or a group against an individual, trying to threaten or coerce. It is very common in schools, although cases like this can occur in work environments. There is an inequality of power between those who attack and those who suffer aggression. They are the 'bullies' present in schools, intimidating their peers, and trying to show that they are inferior to them. The word 'Bullying' is the gerund of the English verb 'to bully' (to bully, to oppress, to threaten or frighten, hurt or threaten someone weaker to force him to do something he doesn't want). The aggressor, the bully, is usually an overbearing person, aggressive, prejudiced and with difficulty in socially relating to people, and who feels envy or resentment of the person he attacks or persecutes; it's not what laymen think, saying they have low self-esteem. Bullies are people who get angry easily, use a lot of brute force and aggression, seeing others as enemies. They are very concerned about self-image and performance, for there is an obsessive-compulsive neurotic character factor behind it all. Often, they were also victims of violence, school failure and traumatic experiences; they have a genetic trait that provides this and they were also mistreated.

For you who beats I say, avoid violence, do not act like that, because the end of it all is very bad for you and for others around you and can destroy you for the rest of your life.

For you who suffer from this, avoid violence, but communicate to adults what happens so that it ends. Anyone who does such a thing does not have Jesus. Avoid watching violent movies. This influences a lot.



Since we are talking about violence, it is good to talk about racial and religious discrimination, because that is not what Jesus came to teach us. God teaches us respect for all people, because He created the human being, each one in its own way, in every detail such as skin color, hair, body shape, and He has a project with all of us. Therefore, don't look at people looking for defects in them, but understand that no one is perfect, and what is perfect for men is deformation for God. What He thinks is what counts, understand?

Ask the Lord to make you see things and people through the eyes of the Spirit. It is also good to remember that God has given every human being the freedom to choose their own path in life. Of course, we would like to see people practicing God's love and knowing His truth, for Jesus said, "I am the way and

the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (Jn. 14: 6). But He also said that it is the Holy Spirit who convicts the world of guilt [Or will expose the guilt of the world] in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment (Jn. 16: 8). It is He who calls people to God. It is He who transforms everyone's character. So, my little brother, pray for people, but let God change them.

One more testimony:

Here's a really cool testimony for you to see how God can change a person's life: this one happened on the street with a sixteen-year-old boy when I was on my way back from my parents' house, where I had gone for lunch. When I reach the sidewalk in front of the hospital that I usually cross, there is a traffic light. There, a very handsome black boy was sitting; his clothes all dirty, begging for alms. Suddenly, I walked over to him and said, "What is a boy as handsome and strong as you doing lying on the ground at the mercy of the devil? God made him to be a prophet, like Samuel, and to have a blessed family and a worthy profession, not to be thrown into devil's hands, being a beggar and using drugs." Tears streamed down my face and he told me he went twice a week to an evangelical church near where he used to sleep for breakfast. I started talking to him and learned the reason why he couldn't get a job: he was a minor. He didn't look like that; he seemed to be about eighteen or nineteen years old. I asked him if he was a Christian and he said no, but he believed in Jesus with all his heart. So, there, in front of all the passersby who stopped and listened, I ministered the word of God to him, I told him to seek the Lord, talk alone with Jesus and, that same day, to give his life to Him. He gave me the prettiest smile I've ever seen on a face and he said, "Thank you, ma'am, for those good words." I went my way. Some time later, I found his friend, who was next to him in that same place, and I asked about him. He told me, "He reconciled

with his parents, came home and went back to school.” How nice Jesus is!

“In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps” (Prov. 16: 9).

### **Music and parties (nightclubs)**



Another thing we need to talk about is the songs. Pay attention to what you’re singing, see if it builds you up, makes you happy or puts you down. And if you’re singing a song in another language and you don’t even know what you’re talking about, stop and think. Go find out the meaning of the lyrics of the song first. Music is something that stirs a lot with our emotions and, of course, with our mind. Music makes words more easily recorded in our unconscious and this can be good or not, depending on what you sing, you know? Therefore, gospel music does good to us, because it praises the name of the Lord and it builds our soul and strengthens our spirit. Pay attention to the parties you go to, especially if they are in nightclubs, where there are only bad things: drinks, drugs and sexual perversion. Remember: Jesus loves you and is jealous of your life. Look for healthier parties. Then the Lord will also

participate and His angels will be responsible for bringing joy to them.

### **Profession**



Work is a very important area in the life of a human being, for it brings self-esteem and security; so, we need to do what we like. Therefore, try to find out about the different professions and make a conscious choice. If you need to, take a vocational test and you’ll discover your tendency. Or, talk to older professionals from different areas and listen to their opinions. If you feel like it, visit certain places and see for yourself what it’s like to work there. Enter companies, schools, hospitals, offices, medical offices, colleges, clinical analysis laboratories, pharmacies, sports centers, art schools, etc. A tip is: remember what you most liked to play when you were little and, thus, you can see that since that age you already had a tendency for a certain activity. Don’t just rely on the salary a profession brings. Salary is important, but it’s not everything. What matters most is for you to be an accomplished person who makes good use of your potential. Don’t let yourself be pressured by the elders of the family like father, mother, uncles, grandparents etc. You are unique to God and only He knows what is best for you. Go

thinking about it and praying in faith and Jesus will reveal it to you.

“Moreover, when God gives any man wealth and possessions, and enables him to enjoy them, to accept his lot and be happy in his work — this is a gift of God” (Ecc. 5: 19).

### **Politeness and social attitudes**



#### 1) Respect to the elders and to honor parents:

In fact, we must have respect for all people, of all ages, including parents and grandparents, teachers, pastors and government authorities.

Is written: “Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you” (Ex. 20: 12).

To honor them is to recognize and respect them, not defame them or make them feel shame because of us. A child who follows God’s ways and does his will is honoring his parents. This means being decent, having nothing to be ashamed of, serving them in love with all your heart, causing them to be proud of us, giving them pleasure and joy, and caring for their reputation. This is the only one of the Ten

Commandments that has a promise, that is, honoring parents makes our days longer. Grandparents, uncles, teachers, pastors, doctors etc. must be respected.



You might ask me, “What about when they abuse their authority and do what’s not fair?”

I tell you that God is just and sees all things. Just pray and put this situation in the Lord's hands and ask Him to do justice because it is also written:

“Fathers, do not embitter your children, or they will become discouraged” (Col. 3: 21).

“Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord” (Eph. 6: 4).

With regard to employers and employees it is the same thing. Respect your bosses and the Lord will honor you. It is written: “Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything; and do it, not only when their eye is on you and to win their favor, but with sincerity of heart and reverence for the Lord. Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance

from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. Anyone who does wrong will be repaid for his wrong, and there is no favoritism” (Col. 3: 22-25).



But for the bosses, the Lord also sends a message: “Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free. And masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Do not threaten them, since you know that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with him” (Eph. 6: 7-9).

2) Be willing to help people, greet them and say nice things.

Treat everyone with kindness and politeness and you will reap in return what you do. Everyone will notice that you are different and will treat you with love too. Help a blind person cross the street, help an elderly woman carry a heavy bag, give alms to someone in need, open car and elevator doors for others, visit the sick person you have known for so long. He’s your friend, isn’t he?

Learn to say: “Excuse me! Thanks! Please! God bless you! Forgive me! Do you need something? Do you need help?” and so on. The good words that come out of your mouth will edify others and become a blessing for your life.



“My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you” (Jn. 15: 12).

### **The Rapture of the Church**



Jesus will return to fetch those who believe in Him and are His, that is, those who have the seal of His blood on their foreheads because they gave themselves to Him and confessed Him as the only Lord and Savior of their lives. It will be in a very quick and unexpected way that only God the Father knows. However, before the day of the Rapture there will be a few years of many pains, sufferings and wars between nations, which the bible calls 'The Great Tribulation.' Soon after these difficult days, then yes, there will be the Rapture of the Church, and God will leave on Earth those who will suffer His judgment until they repent, i.e., the evil men who worshiped gods other than Jesus and sinned a lot against Him. An angel will sound a trumpet on the day of the Rapture and we, who belong to Jesus, if we are alive, will ascend to heaven together with Him; we will be caught up, with a new body, transformed. If we are already dead, we will also resurrect and ascend with Him to heaven. What we call death, namely, being buried, this for God is just 'to sleep,' for we stay asleep until the day of the Rapture. Then, on the Day of Judgment, the wicked will be burned in the lake of fire forever. And we will live in heaven forever with Jesus. Therefore, it is important to make our decision now, while we have time, saying a prayer of surrendering of our lives to Him. But it has to be done from the heart, out of love, not out of fear or simply to do it.

### **Prayer of surrender to Jesus for teens**

Do you know what it means to be saved? It's receiving eternal life and being able to live in heaven with Jesus, instead of spending eternity in hell, far from God.

If you believe that Jesus is the Son of God, who rose from the dead and gave His life to save you, say this prayer aloud: "Father, in the name of Jesus I believe that Jesus died on the cross to save me, and rose from the dead. So I ask your

forgiveness for everything I did wrong and that you may purify my soul and my spirit of the stains of sin. I declare that Jesus is my only Lord and Savior and I receive the Holy Spirit so I can have eternal life. Straighten my paths and stay with me always, as my best friend. In the name of Jesus, I break the commitment I may have with the things of darkness. Write my name, Lord, in the Book of Life. Amen."



After you say this prayer, you need to be baptized in water, so that the Holy Spirit confirms before the spiritual world that you are saved, a child of God now.

### **Jesus' message for young people**

"I am your light and your protection when you find yourself lost and misunderstood by your family and friends. Remember that I am your shepherd and you are the most important little sheep to me. I am always by your side, taking care of your life, and listening to all your requests. I take you to a place of peace, where you can talk to me with an open and confident heart, for I always have the right answer to your questions. I want to be your best friend. Talk to me today. You can trust me. I will always be by your side. Son, remember always that the enemy tries to steal



your faith, drawing your soul to the things in the world that seem most beautiful and powerful, driving you away from my presence, corrupting you with many doctrines of demons, exalting work, profession and success only because of the seduction of money. Work, yes, and live life as it should be lived, but never forget that only I AM GOD, and only in me are you free.”

