

# Ten Rules For Young People

❶ **Life is not fair.** Get used to it. The average teen-ager uses the phrase "It's not fair" 86 times a day. Solomon said, "*I again saw under the sun that the race is not to the swift, and the battle is not to the warriors, and neither is bread to the wise, nor wealth to the discerning, nor favor to men of ability; for time and chance overtake them all*" (Ecc 9:11).

❷ **The real world will not care as much about your self-esteem as you do.**

❸ **You won't make \$50,000 a year as soon as you get out of high school.** You won't be a vice president and have a brand new car either. You may even have to wear a label that doesn't have a designer label on it.

❹ **If you think your teacher, or parents are hard on you, wait until you have a boss.**

❺ **Flipping burgers is not beneath your dignity.** Your grandparents had a different word for burger flipping. They called it, "Opportunity." Remember, Jesus washed the feet of the apostles, and said, "*If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet*" (John 13:14).

❻ **It's not your parents fault if you mess up.** You are responsible. Teen-agers often say, "It's my life," and "you're not my boss." Somehow they forget those words when they mess up. The grown up thing to do is to admit your mistakes and learn from them.

❼ **Before you were born, your parents were not boring.**

❽ **Life is not divided into semesters.** You don't get summers off. You don't get snow breaks. You are expected to show up at work every day for a whole eight hours. You don't get a change every 10 weeks.

❾ **Smoking, driving fast, and talking dirty is not cool.** Actually, it's pretty stupid! It's a sure ticket to future trouble and those that are impressed by these things, are not worth impressing. The Bible says, "*Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap*" (Gal. 6:7).

❿ **Your school may be "outcome based," but life isn't.** In some schools, you're given as many chances as you need to get the right answer. Standards are set low enough so nearly everyone will pass. This has nothing to do with real life. If you can't get the job done at work, you will be replaced. If you mess up, you will face the consequences.

## **Solomon's 3 R's for young people:**

**Rejoice**, young man, during your childhood, and let your heart be pleasant during the days of young manhood. And follow the impulses of your heart and the desires of your eyes. Yet know that God will bring you to judgment for all these things. So, **remove** vexation from your heart and put away pain from your body, because childhood and the prime of life are fleeting. **Remember** also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near when you will say, "I have no delight in them" (Ecc 11:9-12:1)

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