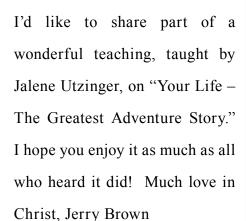
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The Greatest Adventure Story



To those wonderful, full-of-life young believers (and those older!), I offer these thoughts:

You have embarked on the greatest adventure – your own life – no one can live it for you, and no one else is accountable for it – it is yours to direct, yours to manage, and yours to celebrate. God knew since the beginning of time that you would believe His truth, and become born again.

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With Christ in you – the sky is the limit, yet adulthood looms, and the decisions are many. As you embark on this great adventure through school, through marriage, through parenthood and beyond, I encourage you to "continue in the things which thou hast learned" – as each day goes by, keep these principles and truths close at hand:

1) God, the one true God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, is your Father, and will never, never leave you! Develop your by the Richard.

relationship with him, talk to Him, walk with Him, share with Him, pray to Him. Develop that loving Fatherson, Father-daughter relationship that is unique to you.

(Hebrews 13:5, 6) Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

2) Remember the poweryou have in the name of JesusChrist, and demand it for your

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life. Be keenly aware you are in a spiritual battle, which has already been won through Jesus Christ. Speak in tongues much – it is the proof you are heaven bound.

(I Corinthians 1:1-3) Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ through the will of God, and Sosthenes our brother, Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

3) You are born again with Christ in you – nothing can ever take that away, and you have an eternal inheritance.

(Ephesians 1:11, 12) In

whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

4) You have a wonderful household of believers, your brothers and sisters in Christ, that love you and pray for you, and support you.

(Galatians 6:10) As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.

5) In this adventure, you are the Captain of your life – *your decisions will shape your path* - Learn your personal boundaries and keep them. You will continue to learn about yourself your whole

life – take care of yourself, love yourself. Take time out to bless yourself!

Make time for God's Word – read it, study it, speak it, and attend fellowships. Feed yourself spiritual food, as well as physical food!

6) Eschew (avoid) evil – accept no fear in your life.

(I Peter 3:11) Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.

(II Timothy 1:7) For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

7) Learn how to handle money wisely – how to budget, how to save, how to spend, how to invest, and give cheerfully.

(II Corinthians

9:5-

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7) Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren, that they would go before unto you, and make up before hand your bounty, whereof ye had notice before, that the same might be ready, as a matter of bounty, and not as of covetousness. But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

And, is the root of all evil money?

(I Timothy 6:10) For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

It is the LOVE of money, and the power that it brings, that is the root of all evil.

8) Walk in Patience – we live in a "fast-food world". Set Goals – all kinds, and rejoice when one is met!

(Heb 12:1) Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

9) Keep the Hope of the Return of Jesus Christ always alive in your heart (and, keep "mini hopes" for your life, also, such as upcoming events)

(I Thessalonians 4:13-15) But I would not have you to be

ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

10) And, lastly, be thankful – at this time of the year (originally taught during Thanksgiving week), it is a time to reflect on how rich we are – in all ways.

(Colossians 3:15-17) And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in Page 3

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psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

As some of us are just starting out on our great adventure, and as some of us continue living our own great adventure, no matter what the age, we do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him. Just have a blast, and live life to the fullest!

God bless!

Jalene Utzinger