SOUTH JACKSON BEACON

Vol XVIII October 25, 2026 No.43

The Power of One Encouraging Adult
Robert Lupo

When I was a teen in the youth group, life was a bit difficult as it is for so many teenagers. I was greatly involved in just about every youth group activity, but I was struggling spiritually. Every day was a battle to not give in to temptation.

By the grace of God, I never left the church and grew from those days. But my story is not an uncommon one (cf. 1 Pet. 4:12). Many of my peers had just as difficult of a time growing up, if not more so, and nevertheless grew into strong Christians. However, many of them gave in to the adversity of life and left the church.

There are many reasons why a teen might fall away. So, what is it that keeps them faithful? This isn't something you can narrow down to one cure-all. But I know what helped me: the adult Christians in my life. I am a Christian today because certain adults took an interest in me and encouraged me to remain in the faith. We cannot imagine the power that one encouraging adult might have in a young person's life.

I am a Christian because at least one encouraging adult truly cared about me. In his letters, Paul often reiterated his love and admiration for Timothy. In 1 Timothy 1:2, he calls him "my true son." In 2 Timothy 1:2, it's, "my dearly beloved son." Paul saw Timothy as more than just some young person, he was his

son. Paul spent a lot of time with Timothy, working side-by-side with him. He knew him and trusted him like no other (cf. Phil. 2:19-20). If we want to have the same kind of care for our teens, then we can't fake it. We must spend time with them and develop that love.

I am a Christian because at least one encouraging adult believed in me. In 2 Timothy 1:5-6, Paul saw that Timothy was not living up to his full potential. Instead of berating him, Paul pushed Timothy to step up by reminding him of who Paul knew him to be. Paul said, "…when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also. Therefore, I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands." If we want to lift our young people up to be the Christians that God calls them to be, then we must believe they can do it! Remember, it is not by their own power but the power of God working in them (cf. Phil. 2:13).

How would the church change if every teen had one encouraging adult in their life?

Congregational News & Notes

Prayer Requested

Members

Mary Bolen, Luther & Jo Merritt
Nadine McDonald,
Sandra Epperson, Sue Harris
Fredie Stewart, Cindy Kidder,
Lisa Dukes, Betty Mosely,
Teriyaki Anderson,
James Morris, Troyce Taylor,
Pearl Johnson, Paula Wadley,
Judy Ellis, Jerry Crabb,
Karen Chance
Gaylon & Betty Cooper,
Sammy & Shirley Puckett,
Jerry Butcher

Friends & Family

Glenn Lovell,
Beverly Martindale,
Diane Hubbard, Kyle Bess
Brandi Rogers, Corey Allen
Kenton Lancaster, Archie Hardy,
Ruby Malone, Melissa Henson
Caraline Rogers, Justin Puckett,
Jane Washington, Joyce Pack

Today's Sermons

AM - Bruce Hatcher Speaking

PM - Bruce Hatcher Speaking

Happenings

South Jackson

Starts Today
Gospel Meeting with
Bruce Hatcher

October 31
Ladies Retreat
Pinson Mounds
See bulletin board for
more information

Cards to Send

Panda Green
249 Dustin Drive
Jackson, TN 38301

Sheila Kidder
95 Sugar Creek Drive
Henderson, TN 38340

Weekly Record

Bible Class	40/0
AM Worship	73/0
PM Worship	33/0
Wed Bible Study	44/8
Contribution	3627
Budget	3600

Those Privileged to Serve

Oct 25 - AM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: John Smith
Read Scripture:
Charlie Richardson
Opening Prayer:
Greg Long
Sermon: Bruce Hatcher
Closing Prayer: Jeff Dove
Communion: Eddie Anderson
Contribution:
Ronald Clouse

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher
Opening Prayer:
Joe Venable
Sermon: Bruce Hatcher
Closing Prayer: Mike Wages
Communion: Ray Pack

Oct 28 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Ray Pack
Opening Prayer:
Paul Hatcher
Devo - Bruce Hatcher

Nov 1 - AM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Mike Wages
Read Scripture:
Van McConnell
Opening Prayer:
Eddie Anderson
Sermon: Ray Pack
Closing Prayer: Greg Long
Communion: Paul Hatcher
Contribution:
Jeff Dove

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher
Opening Prayer:
Mike Wages
Sermon: Aubrey Fraklin
Closing Prayer: Jerr Butcher
Communion: Greg Long

Nov 4 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Marion Thomas
Opening Prayer:
Joe Venable
Devo - Eddie Anhderson

South Jackson Church of Christ
845 Highway 18
Medon, TN
(731) 424-9721
Minister: Ray Pack
rpack119@gmail.com
(731) 437-9501

Service Times

Gospel of Christ - WBBJ	4:30 AM
Sunday Bible Class	9:30 AM
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 AM
Sunday PM Worship	5:00 PM
Midweek Bible Study	6:30 PM