

Reading: Genesis 39:1-12

***“Jesus grew in wisdom, in stature, in divine grace
and in favour with men by leaps and bounds” (Lk 2:52)***

God Almighty is looking for boys and girls who can carry His blessings to this world. Will you come forward, dear?

- ☆ Wanted youth who will obey their parents and be dutiful to them till death — like JESUS (Lk 2:51; Jn 19:25-27)
- ☆ Wanted youth who will say no to sexual immorality and run away from the place and person of temptation —like JOSEPH (Gen 39:10-12)
- ☆ Wanted youth who will totally abstain from any form of evil — Like TIMOTHY (1 Tim 5:23)
- ☆ Wanted youth who will be wedded to the Bible — like JOSEPH and TIMOTHY (Psa 105:19; 2 Tim 3:15)
- ☆ Wanted youth who will work hard towards a balanced growth, physically, intellectually, spiritually and socially — like JESUS (Lk 2:52)
- ☆ Wanted youth who will cooperate sincerely with their godly parents to fulfil the plan and purposes of God — like ISAAC (Gen 22:6,9-14)
- ☆ Wanted youth who will boldly witness for Christ amidst all mockery and threat — like SAUL PAUL (Acts 9:29)
- ☆ Wanted youth who will not compromise on their convictions and faith though it might mean losing the favour of the employer — like DANIEL & Co. (Dan 3:16-18; 6:10,11,16)
- ☆ Wanted youth who will faithfully obey the elders and wait for God's time of exaltation — like JOSHUA (Ex 24:13; Num 27:18-20)
- ☆ Wanted youth who will rally to remove hypocrisy and all rubbish from God's house—like the YOUNG MEN of Acts 5 (vv 6,9,10)
- ☆ Wanted youth who will dare to attempt great things for God in spite of the defiance of the technological world and the discouragement from the backslidden Church — like DAVID (1 Sam 17:28,33,43,44)
- ☆ Wanted youth who will instantly obey God's call to serve Him fulltime — like JAMES & JOHN (Mt 4:21,22)
- ☆ Wanted youth who will be ready to give away to God anything, if only it can be used to bless those in need, even if it would mean personal sacrifice — like the unnamed LAD (Jn 6:9-11)

HAPPY CHILDREN'S DAY!

Our Heavenly Father, we thank You for every child born in this world beginning with the children of our first parents. You have known each of them before they were formed in the womb of their mothers. We thank You, Lord, that each child is precious in Your sight. You are giving them as gifts to their parents. You have a specific plan for each child. It is not Your will that any of them should perish. Help us, parents, to remember what You told us when they were born: "Bring up this child for Me!" What a privilege! What a responsibility!

Father God, we thank You for Jesus who demonstrated how much You love children. Many times we are like His disciples blocking them to come to You. Help us not to be an offence to any of them. Forgive us, parents and elders, for not modelling our lives enough for them to emulate. Make each of us like Abraham to teach Your Word to our children, and demonstrate obedience. Make each of us like Hannah to impress upon our children their primary obligation to live for You. Make each of us like Mary to help our children align themselves with Your purposes. Help us cooperate with our spouses to bring up our children in all godliness and faith with oneness of mind.

Dear Father, help us parents to know when to pet our children and when to punish them. Help us avoid over-freedom and over-correction. Help us spend quality time with them to nurture them in the fear of You. Give us sensitivity to find out Your will for each of our sons and daughters. Bless us with a spirit of prayer to pour our hearts before You for our children in the midnight hours. Give us wisdom and patience to handle strong-willed children. We acknowledge that Salvation belongs to You. Save our children, O God!

Father God, we pray for the specialised ministries to children. Thank You for Child Evangelism Fellowship, Scripture Union, Youth For Christ, Vacation Bible School and the like. Give all their Staff Your wisdom to teach our children with relevance for successful living in this world of overflowing wickedness. We pray for the agencies which deal with juvenile delinquencies. Help our children escape the subtle traps the enemy has laid in the digital world. We pray for our Churches to give sufficient support to the Sunday School teachers.

Father God, we pray for the childless couples and parentless children. We pray for the children born with deformities and mental retardation. We confess that these situations are mindboggling. Have mercy on them. Amen!

*(Psa 139:13-16; Mt 18:14; Ex 2:9; Gen 18:19; 1 Sam 1:26-28; Lk 2:49-52;
Eph 6:4; Dt 6:7,8; Jonah 2:9b; 1 Jn 2:16)*