

Day 2

~WHAT IS YOUTH?~

Think a minute about your definition of youthfulness. We tend to watch children and define them by their age, stature, endless energy, and joy. But look more closely. They are involved in exploring life and in the discovery of the world around them. They are in so many activities—playing with siblings, neighbors' children or involved in athletics, school activities, and church events. They are caught up in activities that bring them joy!

Aging is an opportunity to remain involved in life. Sometimes we define ourselves by a job, a profession, and one's accomplishments or influence on others. Aging is much more than this. Have you heard people say, "Matilda is sure getting old!" What does this mean? Perhaps Matilda has wrinkles, a slower gait, glasses and graying hair, but look into her heart. Matilda has a positive attitude, still writes poetry, attends women's group and remains involved with her family, neighbors and friends. She even volunteers in the community at the local thrift store. In other words, Matilda is involved in the lives of those around her! I'm sure she has stressors in her life, but she surrounds herself with a community to provide support and nurturing. She still loves life! Does she have problems? Who doesn't? But she tries to look beyond these to love others and remain involved in a personal relationship with God.

God loves you as you are; He created you. He is the Comforter in times of need; He is the Shepherd who rescues you when lost. He is the constant in our lives.

Prayer: 1 John: 5-7

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

