



THE APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH

September 8, 2019 Fall Quarter Volume 38 Lesson 2
Grandparents Day

FORSAKE ME NOT

SCRIPTURAL LESSON: *Psalm 71:17-24*

GOSPEL TRUTH:

A person is never too old to serve God. There is no greater goal and useful service in life than to be used by God. God uses people of every age to do His work.

GOLDEN SCRIPTURE:

Now also when I am old and greyheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have showed thy strength unto this generation, and thy power to every one that is to come (Psalm 71:18).

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH CHURCH DOCTRINES:

1. From childhood to old age our lives can be a living testimony for all the things that God has done for us (*Romans 12:1; Colossians 3:15-17*).
2. Throughout our lifetime, our goal should be to gain spiritual maturity (*Psalm 32:8; I Corinthians 13:11*).
3. To receive eternal rewards, all Christian believers must have the endurance and strength to faithfully finish well in the Lord (*Galatians 6:9; Hebrews 12:1-3*).
4. Because of years of faithful service to the Lord, elder believers have the opportunity to teach, mentor, encourage, and share life experiences with others (*Colossians 1:28; Titus 1:9*).
5. God will never abandon or forsake those who trust and obey Him (*I Samuel 12:22; I Peter 2:9*).

BACKGROUND SETTING:

In *Psalm 71*, the writer reviews his life from childhood to old age and makes a confident assessment that those who have honored and served God throughout their life are never in danger of being forsaken by God. In fact, since God is a God of comfort and help, He stands beside the faithful to make their latter days their best days. *Psalm 92:12* relates, “*The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.*” Palm trees are known for their longevity. To flourish means to be upright, strong, unmovable, and growing. *Psalm 92:14* states, “*They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing.*” Until the day we die, we can continue to rejoice, serve, teach, grow, praise the Lord, and faithfully endure until the end. Our relationship with God will continue to grow as we age.

LESSON SUMMARY:

Growing old is inevitable. Growing old with God on the other hand, brings joy, contentment, and purpose to our life. Nearing the end of his life King Solomon summarized that apart from God, life is empty, hollow, and without meaning. Our only purpose should be to serve and get closer to God (*Ecclesiastes 12:13*). We must take heed to King Solomon’s advice because life is short and we must learn to live wisely, to have hope that goes beyond death.

Aging brings new challenges, changes, and a number of limitations. Despite our limitations, our faithfulness to God will make Him faithful to us. He will never abandon or forsake His people (*I Samuel 12:22*). The benefit of growing older in the Lord is that one has acquired a lifetime wealth of experiences in serving the Lord. With that wealth of experience and insight from God’s point of view, we can teach, share and pass it on to the next generation. We can never outlive our usefulness to God. One thing is certain and that we are confident of-- our years of fruitful service, loyalty, and commitment to God will always bring a long and satisfying life.

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