

☼ Soul Survivor on Danger Island Young Teen Literature this year is intended to address the very real threats against Christianity in this world today. Not only that, it is fairly obvious that we also have entered the age of terrorism, and Christians are not immune to those dangers either. The devils days are getting shorter and he knows it. The reality is that Young Teens must learn not only how to handle these issues, but learn that Christ is the only real refuge during these difficult times.


☼ Realities to Recognize – Daily Dangers that are facing every young teenager that you will be teaching.


☼ Terrorism - According to the U.S. State Department, as of January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 there are 45 Designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations <http://www.state.gov/s/ct/rls/other/des/123085.htm> - accessed 2/22/2010 10:29 p.m.

☼ Anti – Christian Secular Humanist Organizations – “**Secularist organizations** promote the view that moral standards should be based solely on concern for the good of humanity in the present life, without reference to supernatural concepts, such as God or an afterlife.” As of February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 There are 79 in the world, and 27 in the United States. - [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_secularist\\_organizations](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_secularist_organizations) accessed 2/22/2010 – 10:35 p.m.

☼ According to the Centers For Disease Control, website accessed 2/22/2010 for every 7.1 marriages in 2009, there were 3.5 divorces. – Those numbers are in relation to every 1000 people in the population.

☼ There are approximately 38,000 Christian denominations in the world. This statistic takes into consideration cultural distinctions of denominations in different countries. World Christian Encyclopedia (2001) <http://christianity.about.com/od/denominations/p/christiantoday.htm>

 Actualities to Remember – David, Daniel, Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael were all most likely Young Teens when they faced the threats that came against them during these studies. David was a young man facing Goliath, Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael, and Daniel were boys when taken captive by the Babylonians. – These threats and lessons are not above the heads of these young teens; the reality is that some of the characters are your student’s contemporary counterparts.

 Possibilities to Realize

- 1.) The safest place to live is in the center of God’s Will – “Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him . . .” Job 13:15
- 2.) The surest source of emotional, mental, and spiritual strength is in the certainty of God’s Word. “My soul melteth for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word.” Psalms 119:28
- 3.) The strongest power for defeating the devil is in the surrender to God’s Way – “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.” – Ephesians 6:10-11

These are things to remember in strengthening ourselves before we engage in teaching these lessons to young teens. Without doubt, the devil is coming on strong, and will come on stronger as you prepare to teach. Do not lose sight of your Spiritual Preparation in all of the other “thematic” preparation for VBS. May God Bless you as you prepare to teach this year.

Bro. Jeff