"Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign… And he did what was right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the ways of David… While he was still young, he began to seek after the God of David his father…" (2 Chronicles 34:1-3).

Do teenagers really have to be rebellious? Must they have an "attitude"? Why is it we expect young people to "sow a few wild oats"? Just because most adults did, doesn't mean young people shouldn't be held to a higher standard and be called to a higher level.

Josiah did what was right at the age of eight. His example was David (his father Amon was no example but of evil.). The Scriptures bear out this thinking. Samuel began serving the LORD at four years of age. David as a young shepherd boy is more often than not found ministering to the LORD while watching his father's sheep. Timothy and Titus held responsible positions in the early church while very young men. Young Mark became a trusted associate of the apostle Paul. Mary, the handmaiden of the LORD, was chosen above all women to bear the Son of God. And the Master Himself, found in the temple at twelve, teaching the religious leaders.

Let's allow the Scriptures to teach us concerning our children and not be led into unbelief by the old thinking of, "that's just the way it is" and then a shrug of the shoulders and a quick nod of the head!

Son, yes, it may be difficult, but serving Jesus will bear great fruit in your life. "That our sons may be like plants grown upon their youth; that our daughters may be like cornerstone, polished after the likeness of a palace." (Psalm 144:12)