

**Youth Culture Lesson**  
**Finding Teachable Moments in Culture**  
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**Forever Young**

Growing Up and Growing Old in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

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**What Happened:**

Janet Cunliffe of Great Britain loves her 28-year-old daughter Jane. She loves her so much, in fact, that Janet spent \$15,000 on plastic surgery to look exactly like her.

“Seeing how attractive Jane is made me want to get my looks back,” Janet told *The Daily Mail*. “Now instead of mum and daughter, we look more like twins. I had good genes and good skin, but I needed a helping hand to make me feel better about myself.”

While Janet wants to be younger, many young girls want to be older. Catherine Phillips says her 10-year-old daughter, Daisy—already wearing makeup daily and doing her nails—is trying too hard to be 16.

“I worry that she’s trying to look too old, but it’s very hard to put my foot down,” she told *The Daily Mail*. “Although I think it’s sad that she’s growing up so fast, I don’t want to isolate her from her friends. It’s what they all like to do.”

**Talk About It:**

Janet and Daisy are striving to be “beautiful.” Why? What do you consider beauty to be?

Do you think there’s too much pressure to grow up quickly? If so, what’s the source of this pressure?

Is there a “perfect” age to be? What was your favorite year?

**What the Bible Says:**

“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven” (Ecc. 3:1).

“Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised” (Prov. 31:30).

“Let him not deceive himself by trusting what is worthless, for he will get nothing in return” (Job 15:31).

“I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 18:3-4).