

RAISING TEENAGERS

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1. Solid Foundation of the Home - Ephesians 5:21-25, 6:1-4, 10-12. (Amplified Bible).

5:23 The husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church.

5:28, 29 Love her, nourish her, protect and cherish her as Christ does the church.

6:1 Children are to obey their parents in the Lord for this is just and right.

6:2 Children to honor their father and mother that they may live long on the earth.

6:4 Fathers do not irritate and provoke your children to anger, but rear them in the training and discipline and the counsel and admonition of the Lord.

6:10 Be strong in the Lord; draw your strength from Him.

6:11 Put on the whole armor of God to be able to stand against the strategies and the deceits of the devil.

6:12 For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood, but against the despoticisms (principalities), against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly sphere.

2. The Three Realms

A. The Realm of God.

- a. How is God described? _____ Deut. 6:4
- b. How is God addressed by Nehemiah? _____ Neh. 1:4
- a. Where does God live? _____ Isa. 57:15
- b. Is God bound by time? _____ 2 Pet. 3:82.

c. What is an example of this? _____ Isa. 65:24

B. The Realm of Angels.

a. Where did the angels come from? _____ Gen. 28:12

b. The rebellion in heaven. _____ Rev. 12:4

C. The Realm of People and Things

a. The holy angels are ... _____ Heb. 1:14

b. Evil angels: _____ Eph. 6:12

c. The world: _____ 1 Jn. 2: 15,16

3. The Battle is in the Mind

Matt. 16:13-17 Peter's thoughts and words here came from _____.

Matt. 16:21-23 Peter's thoughts and words here came from _____.

Rom. 12:2 The mind of the believer needs to be _____ and this will
_____ the life.

1 Thess. 5:23 The three parts of man are the _____, the _____ and the _____.

A. Your spirit has been made new and is alive in Christ. 2 Cor. 5:17.

a. Col. 2:13,14 He cancelled _____.

b. Eph. 1: 19b- 21 God raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at His right hand, far
above _____.

c. Eph. 2:6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the
_____.

- d. Heb. 10:14 For by a single offering He has _____
those who are being sanctified. Col. 1:27 ... Christ in you, the hope of glory.
- B. The body will be made new when raised imperishable 1Cor. 15:42
- C. The soul (mind, emotions and will) are being made new, changed into His likeness. 2 Cor. 3:18
- a. God created us to be believing beings
 - b. We hold beliefs about everything
 - c. Our beliefs are corrupted, especially our beliefs about God. Rom. 1:21
 - d. Christ has reconciled us into a permanent Father – Child relationship with God. Rom. 8:16
 - e. Solutions to life problems come from believing the truth about God, myself and others.
Pr. 30:5
- D. Our experiences with our earthly father have influenced our concept of our heavenly father.

The <u>Authoritarian</u> father	- More concerned with compliance than relationship He insists on things being done his way. He is not interested in his childrens' opinions, desires or goals. Desires no real intimacy just to obey. Having this view of God motivates people to rebel, not to obey.
The <u>Abusive</u> father	- Deliberately inflicts pain on the children, hurting them emotionally, mentally, physically and/or sexually. See themselves as someone to be used. This robs children of a sense of worth and ability to trust. Destroys their ability to trust God and relate emotionally to Him.
The <u>Distant/Passive</u> father	- Expresses little affection or interaction with his children though may be a good provider. Rarely shows emotion or says "I love you". Doesn't share in his children's joy or pain. He can cause his children to view God as distant and uninvolved in their lives.
The <u>Accusing</u> father	- He is critical and judges every failure. He thinks this will motivate his children to do better and try harder. He rarely gives encouragement or affirms them. This father can cause people to view their heavenly father as an angry judge who is never satisfied with them.
The <u>Absent</u> father	- Is one who is absent because of death, divorce, work, or disinterest. Unlike the passive father who is there but never communicates, the absent father is just not there. His children feel abandoned and neglected not only by their earthly father but by God as well.

The Absent Father Syndrome:

Possible consequences in women:

- Rejects appearance and femininity.
- Craves attention and affection, especially from men or, resents men and rejects their attention.
- Perceives rejection in everything; needs constant reassurance of love.
- Attracted to older men; she may marry then have sexual disfunction “sleeping with dad”.
- Primarily, she has difficulty trusting God.

Possible consequences in men:

- Lack of male role model causes him to seek information elsewhere. May look to his mother resulting in effeminate traits or to the world resulting in a “macho” form of masculinity.
- Craves male attention and affection. This can result in a “tough guy” personality or may be eroticized and lead to homosexuality.
- Attracted to dominant women. May marry a dominant woman and establish a passive role.
- May be especially sensitive to rejection from male authority figures.
- Feels threatened by other men. He may compare and feel he does not measure up.
- Primarily, he has difficulty trusting God

Our view of God as Father is often derived from:

- Our personal experiences with our earthly father or other significant authority figure.
- Unmet needs from our relationship with our earthly father.
- The world’s information about earthly fathers.
- False and incomplete information about God.

4. Raising Teenagers – James Dobson “Just get them through it”.

A. Your Christ centered home:

- a. Jesus said “you must be _____” John 3:5.
- b. Living for _____ 2 Cor. 5:15

B. You and they must be in the Word of God

- a. Hunger to know the Word. 1 Peter 2:2
- b. Choosing to obey the Word. Joshua 1:8, Deut.6:6,7

C. Must be active in Prayer

- a. Prayer for them. Eph. 6:18

b. Prayer with them. John 15:7

D. Active in Ministry

a. Seeking to share Christ with unbelievers. Rom. 1:16

b. Seeking to encourage believers. Heb. 3:13

E. Biblical World View – Col. 1:9 Phillips

a. Warfare mentality

b. A personal vision and mission.

c. Exposure to other cultures, a vision/mission trip.

4. Know God's Heart for You and Your Teen

a. Your destiny in Christ is to be _____ Rom. 8:29

b. When did God choose you? _____ Eph. 1:4

c. When did God plan the days of your life? _____ Ps. 139:16

d. How many thoughts does God have toward you? _____ Ps. 139:17

e. What characterizes God's thoughts toward us? _____ Jer. 31:3

f. How does God show His delight in us? _____ Zeph. 3:17

g. Take hold of His promises and be holy _____ 2 Cor. 7:1

h. Enjoy the freedom the believer has in Christ _____ Gal. 5:1

i. Count on the fruit of the Spirit being manifest in you _____ Gal. 5:22-23

5. A loving husband and father:

a. Heb. 13:5 (Amp), Psalm 16:5,6 _____.

b. 1 Thess. 2:7,8 _____.

c. Ex. 14:14 _____.

d. Major on the majors

Hot spots: i. Music

ii. Dating

e. Develop your child's natural gifts and abilities. Prov. 22:6

f. You are not responsible for bad decisions they make. Adam, the son of God. Lk. 3:38.

g. Be a communicator and use words to always build up. Col. 3:12-14, 4:6.

h. Always love them, never give up on them. Ps. 16:3

Questions: _____

Creating a Christian Identity

What I Feel or Think About Myself	What Is True About Me According to the Scripture	Scripture References
I am unworthy/unacceptable.	I am accepted/worthy.	Ps 139; Rom 15:7
I am alone.	I am never alone.	Heb 13:5b; Rom 8:38-39
I feel like a failure/inadequate.	I am adequate.	2 Cor 3:5-6; Phil 4:13
I have no confidence.	I have all the boldness/confidence I need.	Prov 3:26, 14:26, 28:1; Eph 3:12; Heb 10:19;
I feel responsible for my life.	God is responsible/faithful to me.	Ps 138:8; Phil 1:6, 2:13; 2 Thes 3:3
I am confused/think I am going crazy.	I have the mind of Christ.	1 Cor 2:16; 2 Tim 1:7; Eph 1:17
I am depressed/hopeless.	I have all the hope I need.	Ps 27:13, 31:24; Rom 15:13, 5:5; Heb 6:19
I am not good enough/imperfect.	I am perfect in Christ.	Heb 10:14; Col 2:10; Eph 2:10
There is nothing special about me.	I have been chosen/set apart by God.	Ps 139; 1 Cor 1:30, 6:11; 2 Thes 2:13
I don't have enough.	I have no lack.	Psalms 23:1; Phil 4:19
I am a fearful/anxious person.	I am free from fear.	Ps 34:4; 2 Tim 1:7; 1 Pet 5:7; 1 Jn 4:18
I lack faith.	I have all the faith I need.	Rom 10:17; 12:3; Heb 12:2
I am a weak person.	I am strong in Christ.	Dan 11:32; Is 58:11; Phil 4:13
I am defeated.	I am victorious.	Rom 8:37; 2 Cor 2:14; Jn 5:4
I am not very smart.	I have God's wisdom.	Prov 2:6-7; 1 Cor 1:30; Eph 1:17
I am in bondage.	I am free in Christ.	Ps 32:7; 2 Cor 3:17; Jn 8:36
I am miserable.	I have God's comfort.	Jn 16:7; 2 Cor 1:3-4
I have no one to take care of me.	I am protected/safe.	Ps 32:7; Ps 91
I am unloved.	I am very loved.	Jn 15:9; Rom 8:38-39; Eph 2:4, 5:1-2
I am unwanted/I don't belong to anyone.	I have been adopted by God. I am His child.	Rom 8:16-17; Gal 4:5; Eph 1:5; 1 Jn 3:1-2
I feel guilty.	I am totally forgiven/redeemed.	Ps 103:12; Eph 1:7; Col 1:14, 20; Col 2:13-14; Heb 10:10
I am a sinner.	I have been declared holy, righteous and justified. I am a saint.	Rom 3:24; 1 Cor 1:30, 6:11; 2 Cor 5:21
I have no strength.	I have God's power. I am indwelt with the Holy Spirit.	Acts 1:8; Rom 8:9-11; Eph 1:19, 3:16
I can't reach God.	I have direct access to God as a believer-priest.	Eph 2:6; Heb 10:19-20; 1 Pet 2:5,9
I feel condemned.	I am uncondemned/blameless.	Jn 3:18; Rom 8:1; Col 1:22
There is no direction/plan.	God does direct my life/He has a plan for me.	Ps 37:23, 138:8; Jer 29:11; Eph 2:10
I feel like nothing will ever change.	I've been given a brand new life.	2 Cor 5:17; Eph 4:22-24
I am afraid of Satan.	I have authority over Satan.	Col 1:13; 1 Jn 4:4; Rev 12:11
Sin overpowers me.	I am dead to sin.	Rom 6:6,11, 17-18