

Parenting as Christ's Ambassadors

Shoring Up & Applying Our Foundational Theology

Adult Training Seminar Session One - Kevin Schoonhoven 1-14-18

Opening Discussion – Agree or Disagree and Why?

- Raising children who love Christ is more difficult today than it was in the past
- Parents are confident that their parenting practices are right

To convince you that the Lord Jesus is your all-sufficient shepherd in commissioning you as His ambassador to your children so that you will faithfully fulfill your lifelong parental ministry for Christ's glory

1A. Who are you as Christian parents?

- Genesis 1:26-31, 2:18-25 (Creation)
- Genesis 3:1-7, 16-19 (Fall)
- Genesis 3:15, 21 (Redemption cf Luke 9:23)

What does it mean to be an Ambassador of Christ? (2 Corinthians 5:14-21, cf Matthew 28:18-20)

2A. Who are our children?

- Same Genesis passages as above applied to your children
- Psalm 139:13-16
- Psalm 127
- Psalm 51:5, Proverbs 22:15

3A. What is the cultural context in which we are raising our children? What lies are evangelistically proclaimed as the right way to raise your kids?

Outside the church?

- Colossians 2:4,8, 1 John 5:19, Romans 12:2 (cf 2 Corinthians 10:3-5)
- Ephesians 6:10-13

Inside the professing church?

- 1 John 2:15-16
- Malachi 4:5-6
- Romans 7:14-25

4A. What resources has Christ provided to you as His Parent-Ambassador? (cf 2 Peter 1:3)

Abundant Reason for parental HOPE! How big is Your God?

- An all sufficient Savior – John 10:10, Romans 8:31-32, 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, Philippians 4:13
- An all sufficient Helper, Counselor & Guide – John 14:25-27, 16:12-15, Galatians 3:1-3
- An all sufficient Word – 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Galatians 3:24 (cf Matthew 7:24-27)
- A redemptive community – the local church (One another's, Wise Counselors, Undershepherds)
- An ever present avenue to obtain ALL the HELP we need – Psalm 121, Philippians 4:6-7

Illustration Mark 9:14-24 Father of demon possessed son "Help my Unbelief" Christ alone helped him!

Some Suggested Resources – **STUDY YOUR BIBLE**

(These are wise counselors but not perfect counselors. You still have to walk by faith)

Age of Opportunity by Paul Tripp

The single best resource on parenting teenagers

Come Back, Barbara by C John Miller & Barbara Miller Juliani

A story of a pastor's daughter's rebellion and repentance told interactively from both perspectives

Disciplines of a Godly Family by Kent & Barbara Hughes

Family version of his popular book "Disciplines of a Godly Man"

Do Hard Things by Alex & Brett Harris

Books written by two outstanding teenage young men calling their peers to rebel against low standards

Everyday Talks by John Younts

Talking to your kids about Christ through daily events and activities of life

Family Worship by Don Whitney

A short primer and simple guide to leading family worship

"How Not to Foul Up The Training of Your Children" 40 Part Sermon Series by Al Martin

The most thorough and detailed exposition of key passages from an experienced pastor

I Kissed Dating Goodbye by Josh Harris

Excellent treatment of the American teenage subculture of indiscriminate boyfriend/girlfriend relationships

Instruction A Child's Heart by Tedd Tripp

Very helpful application of his first book, Shepherding a Child's Heart, with emphasis on the gospel

Proverbs for Parenting & Schoonhoven's Wisdom from Proverbs

Topical arrangements of Proverbs applied to different training issues to address with your children

Quick Scripture Reference for Counseling Youth by Keith Miller

Simple and brief topical arrangement of scriptures to equip you to counsel your kids

Shaping of a Christian Family by Elizabeth Elliot

An autobiographical account of the author's godly upbringing as the primary influence in her life

Shepherding a Child's Heart by Tedd Tripp

The single best book on parenting focused on imparting a vision to go after their hearts not just behavior

Strengthening Your Marriage by Wayne Mack

A great guide through the relevant scriptures pertaining to marriage and family life

Teach Them Diligently by Lou Priolo

A great work on the sufficiency of scripture and how to use scripture in training our children

Time for The Talk by Steve Zollos

A guide to Father-Son talks on Sex Education & leading your son into true manhood

War of Words by Paul Tripp

The best book to really help you tame the tongue

Withhold Not Correction by Bruce Ray

A strong treatment on parental calling to provide consistent, faithful, loving discipline

Worldliness by C J Mahaney

A great aid to helping hold back the tide of worldly influences that pull at our hearts

Your Child's Profession of Faith by Dennis Gundersen

A very helpful guide to discerning true conversion in your children and helping them to examine themselves