

# **Parenting as Christ's Ambassadors**

## **Teaching Boys Biblical Masculinity – Lead, Protect, Provide, & Sex Education**

Adult Training Seminar Session Six- Michael Lucas 2-18-18

### Resources:

- The Masculine Mandate, Richard D. Phillips
- What Every Man Wishes His Father Told Him, Byron Forrest Yawn
- Time for the Talk, Steve Zollos

### **I. Fathers, Be Present and Lovingly Engaged With Your Sons (Proverbs; Eph 6:4; Luke 1:17;)**

**A. Realize the hole you leave when you are not present and engaged**

**B. Realize the hole you leave when you do not communicate your love**

### **II. Fathers, Teach & Model Biblical Headship to Your Sons**

**A. Give him a vision for his future role as head (1 Cor 11:3; Eph 5:22-23)**

**B. Give him clarity for the work as head (Gen 2:15-17)**

#### **1. Provision**

*What does a gardener do to make his garden grow? He tends the garden; he works it. He plants seeds and prunes branches. He digs and fertilizes. His labor makes living things strong, beautiful, and lush. As he works, he is able to stand back and see that he has accomplished good things. There are rows of tall trees, rich fields of wheat, bountiful vineyards, and colorful beds of flowers.*

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*According to the Bible, this kind of work describes one of the two main planks in a man's calling. Not that men are all literally to work as gardeners. Rather, we are called to "work" whatever "field" God has given us. Men are to be planters, builders, and growers. A man's working life is to be spent accomplishing things, usually as part of a company or other grouping of people. We are to invest our time, our energies, our ideas, and our passions in bringing good things into being. A faithful man, then, is one who has devoted himself to cultivating, building, and growing.<sup>1</sup>*

**a. Guide his abilities toward his calling and nurture his godly ambition**

**(Kind of Work)**

- Questions to help us think about the kind of work we should do:

- Does this work glorify God?
- Does it benefit my fellow man?
- Do I consider myself called to this work, or can I at least do it well and find enjoyment in that?
- Does it provide for material needs?
- Does it permit me to lead a godly and balanced life?<sup>2</sup>

**b. Help him develop a biblical work ethic (Pro 6:6-11; Eph 6:5-8)**

**c. Instruct him how to be a good steward of his resources (Pro 3:9; 2 Cor 9:6-7; Mat 6:33; Luk 16:9-12; Mat 6:19-21)**

**d. Teach him not only to cultivate through physical work, but to cultivate people**

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<sup>1</sup> Phillips, Richard D.. The Masculine Mandate (p. 17-18). Reformation Trust Publishing. Kindle Edition.

<sup>2</sup> Phillips, 29.

**(Eph 4:15-16;**

**2. Protection (Psa 121; 1 Tim 4:15-16; Eph 5:25-28; 1 Peter 3:7; Eph 6:4)**

**3. Servant Leadership (Mat 20:17-34; Jn 13:3-5)**

**III. Fathers, help your sons transition into manhood**

## A. Instill godly character<sup>3</sup>

1. Humility - To pursue humility means choosing to accept the fact that your knowledge and abilities are limited, and in light of that, you are regularly seeking help and graciously receiving advice and correction.
2. Courage - To pursue courage means choosing to do what is right despite the opposition of others or of your own desires.
3. Purity - To pursue moral purity means choosing to live by the highest moral principles in both speech and physical relations, despite your own desires to do otherwise, and despite any external pressure to compromise.
4. Faithfulness - To pursue faithfulness means acting in integrity, keeping your word, and doing what is right before God, with fortitude and without complaint, because you trust God to give you the ability to complete all he has given you to do.
5. Selflessness - To pursue selflessness means placing the well-being of others before your own needs and desires.
6. Self-control - To pursue self-control means to live according to the Spirit of God, choosing to glorify God with our lives and deny the sinful nature when tempted to do otherwise.

*When you look to Christ you are beholding real strength, fortitude, character, determination, zeal, conviction, endurance, and courage. But, like all things Christ, it's counterintuitive. It does not come out in bravado, but humility. True strength is found in restraint, and not dominance. Fortitude is seen in quiet suffering, and not hardheadedness. Character is visible in consistency, and not status. Determination is evident in patience, and not headstrong belligerence. Real zeal is aimed toward God, and not found in self-determination. Real power is doing what you should, instead of what you'd rather. What we'd rather do is usually easier. In a word, strength is restraint.<sup>4</sup>*

## B. Have "the Talk"

### 1. Issues to cover:

- a. The physical changes of puberty
  - Under-arm hair and facial hair
  - Body odor
  - Growth spurts
  - Change in voice
  - Acne
  - Muscle development
  - Pubic hair
  - Erections
  - Wet dreams

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<sup>3</sup> Zollos, Kindle Locations 745-787

<sup>4</sup> Yawn, 44.

- b. Male and Female anatomy
  - Male reproductive system
  - Female reproductive system
- c. Sex
  - Explaining the sexual act
  - Orgasms
  - Sex as the fulfillment of marital love
  - God created man for sexual pleasure in marriage (Gen 1:28)
- d. Sexual Perversions
  - Masturbation, Pornography, Lust,
  - Premarital sex, Adultery,
  - Homosexuality, Bi-sexuality, Pedophilia
  - Exercising self control by the power of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-23)
    - (resource: Sexual Detox, Tim Challies)
- e. Other issues
  - STDs
  - Birth Control
- f. A Godly wife
  - Traits of a Godly wife
  - How to pursue a relationship in a godly way

## 2. Tips:

- Back to point 1; be lovingly engaged with your son. You must be available to him, not just making time when you are available. Fruitful conversations will only come out of a relationship where you are present, attentive, and listening. So, begin by fostering this kind of atmosphere through repeated attempts at purposeful, uninterrupted, individual times where you engage your son.
- Don't try to accomplish it all in one shot. "The Talk" works best, not in one large dose, but by progressive sessions. Plan out what you want to cover, while not being inflexible to where the conversation may turn
- You begin these talks before someone else talks to them about it (ie. Public school sex education, peers) and you should have it before they experience the effects of puberty.
- Be patient in your conversation. It will take time for your son to feel comfortable to talk to you about such private matters. Therefore, ask leading questions without pressure. Be accommodating and reassuring in your tone. Your demeanor will help ease the tension of the conversation topics.
- Choose an environment that will be relaxing, non-threatening, and interruption free. (walk in the woods, fishing, park, road trip, etc). During that time, turn off all your devices that may interrupt, and have him do the same.
- Every son is different, so fashion your talk to where he is at the time. Remember that, God-willing, you will have future meetings
- Avoid turning this meeting into another "correction-session." Not to say we should never correct during this time, but remember that this time was not designed for anger, judgment, or condescension. It is a time to draw out the heart of your son, and impart wisdom and knowledge to him. It is far too easy to devolve into another "told-you-so" lecture and receive the blank stare or eye-roll. Do all you can to nurture an

environment of a man-to-man talk, rather than a father-to-child talk. The point of this talk is to help your son transition to the man-to-man relationship as he grows.

- Be open to share your own struggles. It is helpful and encouraging for your son to see you as a sinner too, rather than “the infallible father.”
- Don’t be surprised that your sons sin surfaces to the top. Resist the desire to shut him down, as he is entrusting his failures to you, you want him to know it is a safe for him to talk to you. When you correct, do so gently, graciously and in love. Remember the purpose of your talk.
- With your first talk, reassure your son, clarifying what your intentions are. Here is an example from Steve Zollos:

*You are coming into a new time in your life. You are beginning the journey from being a boy to becoming a man. Every boy walks through this process. Millions of guys have already done this. It’s not always easy, but it’s completely normal. There are outward physical changes that help us determine when the inward changes are due to occur: things like underarm hair, sweating, and sometimes acne or pimples. These are physical signs of maturity. You are not a man yet, but you have started the process. It is important as you travel this road that you have someone you can trust who will always speak honestly to you and will look out for your best interests. This needs to be someone who has walked that road and can give you the benefit of his experience. That is why I have brought you here, to talk to you about the things reserved for men to discuss. There are no questions that are off limits for this discussion. I will be completely honest with you. I will not hide anything from you that should be shared with a young man of your years. I will answer all your questions to the best of my ability. What we discuss here is a conversation between men and it must stay between us. You are not to discuss these things with any younger brothers. They are not ready for such discussions, and when they are I will discuss these things with them just as I am discussing them with you. Obviously, these discussions aren’t for girls to hear, either, even though we will spend some time talking about girls. Many of the things you have heard and seen about girls and about being a man—things you think may be true and accurate—probably aren’t. I want to tell you the truth about becoming a man, and what being a real man is all about. This truth comes from Scripture, either through direct command or principle. The world cannot offer this divine perspective on sexuality.<sup>5</sup>*

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<sup>5</sup> Zollos, Kindle Locations 1132-1153