

Training the Next Generation

July 27, 2018 | 8 upvotes | by [QuickieStart](#)

I have three sons and a daughter. I've taken my older two boys through the Passport to Purity weekend. It's now time to take my youngest son. Do any of the members have advice on other programs like this for guiding boys just starting to enter puberty? Last I checked the PtoP program was a bit antiquated.

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Comments

Deep_Strength • 5 points • 27 July, 2018 05:02 PM*

Deut 6:1 These are the commands, decrees and laws the Lord your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, 2 so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the Lord your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. 3 Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the Lord, the God of your ancestors, promised you.

4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.[a] 5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. **6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.**

Programs are not going to help your kids all that much in the grand scheme of things.

You are responsible for educating your children.

Children will generally think other programs are OK or maybe not even pay much attention to them, but they will take instruction from their parents seriously over time as you are the ones doing life with them. Don't let it be that they're getting all of their education from public school, programs, or even the Church... the Church doesn't do that great a job in many cases.

RedPillWays • 1 point • 27 July, 2018 05:56 PM

I completely agree with you. Have the kids get a firm foundation from you. You have a invested interest in their well being. To many people rely on study books, conferences etc. Bible, Bible, is what I would teach. Not what someone else thinks. Get a nice hermeneutics book and go from there.

Grasping God's Word: A Hands-On Approach to Reading, Interpreting, and Applying the Bible
https://www.amazon.com/dp/0310492572/ref=cm_sw_r_cp_apo_i_kX1wBb74976B4

Deep_Strength • 1 point • 27 July, 2018 06:20 PM

Looks like a good book. I'm going to check it out

QuickieStart[S] • 1 point • 27 July, 2018 06:02 PM

I agree almost entirely. My wife and I know we are the primary teachers, school and church secondary. That's one of the reasons we choose the public schools - it gave us fertile ground to regularly discuss with our kids the challenges and opportunities in world.

I love the passage you quoted, and draw on it regularly. But God also calls us to memorialize important events: Passover, jubilee, feasts, communion, etc. That's what I'm getting at here. It places a marker in their lives that they will remember and look back on. I draw on Robert Lewis' book "Raising a Modern Day Knight".

Deep_Strength • 3 points • 27 July, 2018 06:19 PM

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Definitely.

In Jewish culture around that age (of 13) you have the coming of age/adult ceremony of Barmitzvah. I'm considering doing some sort of ceremony with my kids and letting them know I consider them 'adults' and more responsible for themselves from that point on and they can always ask me for advice.

Might be a good idea if you want to do something like that

ruizbujc • 1 point • 27 July, 2018 09:44 PM

I can see it now: "My son's a teenager and got a girl pregnant! Where did I go wrong? I took him to the retreat that my church said would set him straight," <whimper whimper whimper>.

Red-Curious • 3 points • 30 July, 2018 05:01 PM

I was on vacation when this came out, so I wasn't responding to much ... but this is a good topic that needs to be addressed more: how to raise our kids to know the truth of what God expects in marriage and relationships.

Sadly, there is virtually no content in mainstream Christianity that will give an actual biblical look at relationships. The best I can suggest is to do your own personal study with your kids to address these issues. Don't have it be a 1-2 week thing. Let it be ongoing for months.

Where to start? If physical marriage between a man and woman is parallel to spiritual marriage between Christ and his church, then the pre-spiritual-marriage process (evangelism) should also parallel the pre-physical-marriage process (dating). So, study evangelism. Learn how God draws his bride to himself and how the bride is meant to respond. Consider all the principles of what God will and won't do with non-Christians. Look at how God selects and initiates and pursues, etc. Look at the types of people he rejects and turns away from. These are the guiding principles we have for how we should be seeking a potential spouse as well.

RunawayGrain • 1 point • 27 July, 2018 04:46 PM

What kind of environment do they have at school / around friends?

QuickieStart[S] • 1 point • 27 July, 2018 04:50 PM

He's in the public schools by our choice, but very involved with our church and has several friends there.

RunawayGrain • 2 points • 27 July, 2018 05:17 PM

I remember doing an equivalent program back in the early eighties. IIRC it was with Jim Bright from Jacksonville, Fla., so really old school. Mostly I was just there because my parents insisted I do it. Most of the time my eyes were just glazed over, or I was passing notes with my friends. I'd say that's fairly typical for kids that age.

I'm just saying that the friends they keep and that kind of peer re-enforcement is going to impact a lot. Probably more than a program will at that age.

I'd also say being an involved dad is more of an impact. My old man gave me a lot of straight talk, and generally kept his hand on the rudder, while also giving me some space to make my own mistakes. I can see that now that I'm an older guy. Not saying it's your case, but a lot of parents want someone else to handle this sort of thing because of their own hang ups. It'd probably be better off coming directly from you.

Don't take this as an indictment of you or anything, I'm just giving some honest observations.

QuickieStart[S] • 1 point • 27 July, 2018 06:06 PM

I hear you, and no offense taken. I literally heard another dad say "I hope the christian school my kids

are at is teaching my kids that stuff." I'm not that dad.

My response to Deep_Strength would work here too.