

Parenting in Today's World

Biblical Parenting Class – Week #6

"In the simplest of times, raising children is an overwhelming task. These are not the simplest of times. Many voices are giving competing and often contradictory messages.... The need of the hour is the timeless clarity and wisdom of the Word of God. The Bible is robust, providing solid counsel, tailor-made for every era and culture. The greatest need of parents is biblical knowledge coupled with the wisdom and understanding needed to break down the application of Scripture into sensible and doable training and nurture of children."
– Tedd Tripp, in the foreword to *The Faithful Parent*

I. Gender: Raising Boys and Girls

A. Develop a _____ for Biblical Masculinity and Femininity

1. The _____ Issue: God as Creator – Genesis 1:27-29

- His _____
- His _____
- His _____

2. The _____ and _____ – Genesis 2:18-25; 1 Corinthians 16:13-14; 1 Timothy 2:8-15; Titus 2:1-8; 1 Peter 3:1-7, etc.

B. Recognize the _____ on Biblical Masculinity and Femininity

1. The _____ of gender

2. The _____ of genders

3. The _____ of gender roles

C. Intentionally _____ Biblical Masculinity and Femininity

II. Media and Technology

A. Your _____ of Media and Technology

1. Media...

- feeds _____
- reflects _____
- intentionally presents a _____
- is a powerful _____

2. Technology...

- reflects the _____ nature of God
- can be used for _____ or _____
- has dramatically increased _____ to media

B. Your _____ regarding Media and Technology

1. Shaping _____ media/technology influences your children's lives

2. Shaping _____ media/technology influences your children's lives

C. Your _____ regarding Media and Technology

1. Be _____

2. Be _____

3. Be the _____

- The willingness to say _____
- The use of technology to _____
- The use of passwords to _____

4. Be _____

III. Adolescence and the Teenage Years

"Parents are afraid of their teenagers. Even as they are enjoying the early years of a child's life, they are looking over their shoulders with dread, expecting the worst, knowing that in a few short years this precious little one will turn into a monster overnight."

Paul David Tripp, *Age of Opportunity*

A. The "_____ " of Adolescence

B. The "_____ " of Teen Rebellion

C. The _____ of the Teen Years (Sex, Drugs, Alcohol)

**Time for the Talk* (available through Shepherd Press)

1. Remember the goal is not _____, it is _____

- Balance _____ your kids with _____ them
- Begin preparing your children for these issues _____ than you think you need to
- Be sure you are painting the _____ biblical picture of these issues

2. If your child is struggling with these issues (and really any other):

- Be careful not to _____
- Be careful to keep communication _____
- Be careful to focus on the _____ and the _____ (there is hope!)
- Be careful not to totally insulate them from _____

D. What if my _____ rebels?

IV. Sports (and other Hobbies)

-C.J. Mahaney, in his booklet, *Don't Waste Your Sports*, writes, "Often, as parents, we think we have fulfilled our duty by simply attending our children's games and cheering. Not so! We are called to so much more. Informed by the gospel, we are called to lead our children wisely. Before the game, this includes preparing them to keep biblical priorities in mind while they play. After the game, this includes celebrating their expressions of godly character more than we celebrate their skill or the final score. Every

moment our children spend in sports is a teaching moment. ...[He then gives the following] few suggestions for parents, so that we don't waste our children's sports [or other hobbies]:

- A. Celebrate _____
- B. Prize Your _____
- C. _____ Your Local Church
- D. Training For _____

Questions for Reflection

1. What is your vision for biblical masculinity/femininity? How is this undermined in our culture?

2. How will you intentionally cultivate biblical masculinity/femininity in your kids?

3. How are you and your family just bobbing along in the sea of media and technology?
How have you seen media affect your children?

4. What changes do you need to make as a family to be more careful and intentional regarding media and technology use?

5. How are you preparing your kids to navigate the future challenges that will come from media and technology?

6. What is your vision for the teenage years? How are you preparing for them today? If you have teenage children, what do you need to work on in your interaction with them?

7. What sports/hobbies are your children involved in? In what ways do you need to be more careful or intentional with these aspects of your family life?