

Preparing Teens for Life

Panel 2019 Dottie Smitley

Memory Verse:

For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in ALL respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God... Colossians 1:9, 10

> (A PRAYER VERSE FOR US TO MEMORIZE AND TO PRAY OVER OUR CHILDREN)

One way in which we can prepare our teens for life is by teaching them life skills.

Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. I Corinthians 10:31

And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father. Colossians 3:17

Whatever you do, do your work heartily [literally, "from the soul"], as for the Lord rather than for men; knowing that you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve. Colossians 3:23, 24

1. What are some ways in which we can develop life skill in our teens?

While developing these life skills, we need to be developing good character in our teens.

Character building must be a deliberate effort and not left to chance. ~Dr. Walter Fremont

A good name is to be more desired than great riches, favor is better than silver and gold. Proverbs 22:1

2. What are some ways in which we can develop character and personal discipline in our teens?

There is a good, better and BEST Choice. We want to encourage our teens to seek the BEST choices in life!

All things are lawful, but not all things are profitable. All things are lawful, but not all things edify. I Corinthians 10:23

3. How can we help our teens develop the skill of making wise choices in the following areas?

CHOOSING FRIENDS

The most powerful influence can be wrong friends. ~Pastor M. Minnick

He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm. Proverbs 13:20

....in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons. I Timothy 4:1

CHOOSING A VOCATION

As each has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. I Peter 4:10 (also see Romans 12:1-8; Ephesians 4:11)

CHOOSING A MATE

Does this person love the Lord with all his heart, soul and mind? And his neighbor as himself? (Matthew 22:37-39)

CONCLUSION

Dr. Bob Jones Sr. said, "God always has a prepared place for a prepared man." And Pastor Minnick added, "Make it your high ambition!"

May our high ambition be to prepare our teens for life—*"It must be a deliberate effort and not left to chance."* (Dr. Fremont)

RECOMMENDED SOURCES

- o answersingenesis.org
- o The New Answers, Books 1-4 by Ken Ham
- Raising Godly Children in an Ungodly World
 by Ken and Steve Ham
- Age of Opportunity by Paul David Tripp
- Etiquette Plus by Inge P. Cannon
- Know Your Child by Joe Temple
- Shepherding a Child's Heart by Tedd Tripp
- Theology of the Family, edited by Jeff Pollard and Scott T. Brown

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