

One Conference

Berachah Bible Church

A Teenager in the House

I. The teen years are a time for awakening to the necessity for preparing for life.

A. A time for training (ground rules for the young)

- 1. Enjoy life because one day you will attend your own funeral (Eccle. 11:7-8).**
- 2. Enjoy life in your youth. But remember you are accountable to God (Eccle. 11:9, 10).**
- 3. Make your youth count for God (Eccle. 12:1-7).**

B. A time for challenges

- 1. Changes in the body**
- 2. Changes in the mind**
- 3. Changes in relationships**
- 4. Changes in responsibilities**

C. A time for beginning

- 1. Develop a wise heart.**
- 2. Set your eyes on the things that matter.**

- 3. Live with knowledge of God's judgment.**
- 4. Don't let life make you hard and cynical.**
- 5. Take care of your body.**

II. Parents of teens must go back to the future (What was it like for you as a teenager?).

- A. Conflict with authority**
- B. Sexual temptations**
- C. Insecurity**
- D. Personality development**
- E. Physical changes**
- F. Sibling conflicts**
- G. Divorce**
- H. Sports, grades, and personal appearance**
- I. Money**
- J. Transportation**
- K. Decisions**

III. Parents are to give wise counsel to their teens.

- "Do I have to go on vacation with the family?"**
- "Can I spend the night with my friends?"**

- **“Can I date?”**
- **“Why do I have to go to school?”**
- **“Why can’t I get married?”**
- **“Can I drive?”**
- **“Do I have to do chores?”**
- **“Should I go to college?”**
- **“Should I enlist in the armed forces?”**
- **“Can I wear a ring in my lip?”**
- **“What’s wrong with smoking pot?”**
- **“What can’t I see that movie?”**
- **“Why can’t I wear a bikini?” (a word to dads)**

IV. Parents must put on the whole armor of God

- A. There is a war for the soul of your teen.**
- B. What your teen really needs.**
- C. The need for parents to show up.**
- D. Teens need parental teachers.**
- E. The powerful weapon of love.**

V. Parents and the discipline of teens

- A. Reasonable expectations**
- B. Too late to spank?**

C. Defiance of authority

D. Who pays the fines?

VI. Parents and cyberspace teens

A. Internet, computers, I-pods, cell phones, etc.

B. Some guidelines

VII. Parents and the rebellious teenager

A. Scripture's starting points

- 1. The sufficiency of Scripture**
- 2. The circumstances of living in a fallen world**
- 3. The overcoming power of the Spirit of God**
- 4. The excellencies of God**
- 5. A knowledge of your child**
- 6. The theology of rebellion**

B. The symptoms of a rebellious teen

C. A strategy for dealing with a rebellious teen

- 1. Consider the act or condition of rebellion as the occasion for self-examination, i.e. self-judgment (1 Cor. 11:31).**
- 2. Confront compassionately your teen with his or her rebellion (Matt. 18:15; Gal. 6:1).**
- 3. Take whatever disciplinary action is necessary (Prov. 3:11, 12; 13:24).**
- 4. Make a better relationship with your teen a top priority (Prov. 27:8).**
- 5. Develop better unity in your marriage (Eph. 5:22-33).**
- 6. Pray for the repentance and restoration of your rebellious teen (Eph. 6:18).**
- 7. Seek help and encouragement from your church family (1 Thess. 5:14; Heb. 10:25).**
- 8. Get on with life and put off self-pity, blame-shifting, bitterness, and discouragement (Eph. 4:31; 2 Cor. 4:8).**
- 9. Don't give up. The prodigal may return (Lk. 15:11-32).**

D. Questions and answers

- 1. What if the doctor says my teen needs medicine?**

- 2. What do I do if I am having problems communicating with my teen?**

- 3. Where can I go for resources for more help?**