"Raising Modern-Day Knights"

March 12, 2015 Tom Arneberg Leading With Power

Intro

- 1st thought: "Are you NUTS?!" (I talk too fast and I get tongue-tied and my words get tangled!)
- And that's when I'm not even nervous or excited!

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Intro

- 1st thought: "Are you NUTS?!"
- 2nd thought: How can I compare with past LWP speakers?
 - CEOs
 - NFL all-pro players
 - Doctors
 - National Marriage Experts
 - Olympic Athletes

- 1st thought: "Are you NUTS?!"
- 2nd thought: How can I compare?
- 3rd thought: It would just be an advertisement for Boy Scouts!

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Intro

- 1st thought: "Are you NUTS?!"
- 2nd thought: How can I compare?
- 3rd thought: It would just be an advertisement for Boy Scouts!
- Hmmm...Moses complained, too...

But Moses pleaded with the LORD, "O Lord, I'm not very good with words...I get tongue-tied, and my words get tangled." Then the LORD asked Moses, "Who makes a person's mouth? Who decides whether people speak or do not speak...? Is it not I, the LORD? Now go! I will be with you as you speak, and I will instruct you in what to say." – Exodus 4:10-11

- 1st thought: "Are you NUTS?!"
- 2nd thought: How can I compare?
- 3rd thought: It would just be an advertisement for Boy Scouts!
- Hmmm...Moses complained, too...
- I guess I *have* read books, taken and taught classes, listened to podcasts, raised 5 kids and 100 Boy Scouts...



ATTITUDE CHECK

Dan Faschingbauer:



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Intro

ATTITUDE CHECK

Dan Faschingbauer:



"Oh, are they having trouble finding speakers this year?"

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Raising Modern-Day Knights

- ⊌ Intro
- Fatherhood: Priority, Goals, STRATEGY
- Shelter from world's culture
- Create your own family culture
- Purposely build character

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Ground Rules

- I won't tell YOU what to do; I'll just tell you what WE have done
- We can DISAGREE and still be friends! (In fact, I can guarantee you'll disagree with SOME of what I say today.)

Ground Rules

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- This is about raising modern-day KNIGHTS, not DAMSELS.

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- This is not about the book

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- I won't tell YOU what to do; I'll just tell you what WE have done
- We can DISAGREE and still be friends!
- This is about raising modern-day KNIGHTS, not DAMSELS.
- This is not about the book
- Target audience: Fathers of young boys
- You may not have had a good dad

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Ground Rules

"The most important thing a father can do for his children is to LOVE THEIR MOTHER."

Ground Rules

- Love permeates everything

 - It's discipline = function(love)

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Fatherhood: Priority, Strategy

● Fatherhood is your MOST IMPORTANT JOB!

What about the classic list of priorities?

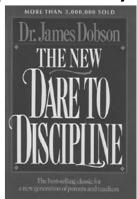
- 1. God it's being, not doing
- 2. Wife still more being than doing
- 3. Kids there's a beginning/middle/end
- 4. Career
- 5. Hobbies

- Therefore, you must HAVE A STRATEGY!
 - Do you have a strategy for Fantasy Football? For hunting? Quartet schools? Racquetball videos?

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Fatherhood: Priority, Strategy

- Developing a strategy:
 - Do your homework ("research")
 - Read books (LWP Motto: "Leaders Read; Readers Lead")



- Developing a strategy:
 - Do your homework ("research")
 - Read books
 - Radio shows and podcasts





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Fatherhood: Priority, Strategy

- Developing a strategy:
 - Do your homework ("research")
 - Read books
 - Radio shows and podcasts
 - Take classes

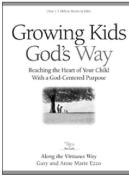
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Classes:

"Growing Kids God's Way"

(Dale Poynter)





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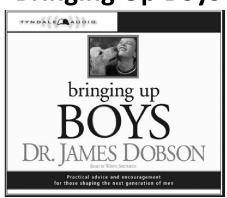
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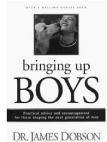
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Fatherhood: Priority, Strategy

Classes:

"Bringing Up Boys"

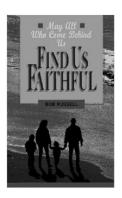




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Classes: "Find Us Faithful"





(Dennis Wolf)

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Fatherhood: Priority, Strategy

Classes:

Marriage & Parenting Sunday School classes (Keith & Terri Tompkins)



- Developing a strategy:
 - Do your homework ("research")
 - Read books
 - Radio shows and podcasts
 - Take classes
 - Watch other parents

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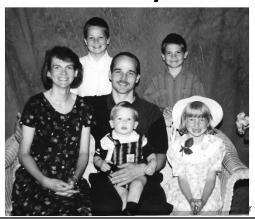
Fatherhood: Priority, Strategy

Watch other parents: Dick & Connie Carpenter



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Watch other parents: Dave & Sue LeMay



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Fatherhood: Priority, Strategy

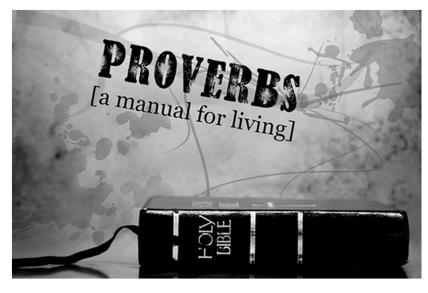
- Developing a strategy:
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 - Hone your observation skills (& communicate with your wife)

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Proverbs 22:6

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Fatherhood: Priority, Strategy



- Developing a strategy:
 - Do your homework ("research")
 - Hone your observation skills (& communicate with your wife)

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." – Prov. 22:6

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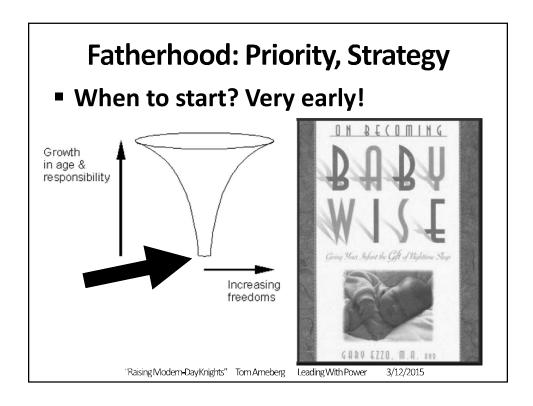
More accurate: "Train up a child according to his bent..."



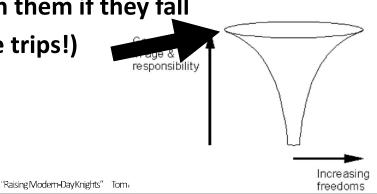
- Developing a strategy:
 - Do your homework ("research")
 - Watch other parents
 - Hone your observation skills (& communicate with your wife)
 - Parent "within the funnel"

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Fatherhood: Priority, Strategy Parenting "within the funnel": Growth in age & responsibility Increasing freedoms "Raising Modern-DayKnights" Tom Ameberg Leading With Power 3/12/2015



- When to end? When they're still at home (e.g., senior year of high school)...then you'll be there to help catch them if they fall
- (bike trips!)



- Developing a strategy:
 - Do your homework ("research")
 - Hone your observation skills (& communicate with your wife)
 - Parent "within the funnel"
 - Your STRATEGY depends on YOUR GOAL!



Jim Haley's skiing:

- Goal: maximize speed in races
- Strategy: Spend a half hour perfecting waxing technique every time he skis

Tom Arneberg's skiing:

- Goal: Increase heart rate, and slow me down on those scary downhills
- Strategy: Buy waxless skis, and apply rub-on glide wax once a year

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Fatherhood: Priority, Strategy

What's our GOAL in parenting?

- It's NOT to give our kids what they WANT
- It's NOT to make our kids "happy"
- It's NOT to minimize hassle
- It's NOT even to raise great kids!

Our goal: To raise kids who become great ADULTS!

 Specifically, self-supporting grownups who love God and want to follow His will, who are an asset and not a drain to those around them.

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Fatherhood: Priority, Strategy

This means they know how to LEAD OTHERS and ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY and WORK HARD.

Their WORK ETHIC and SELFLESSNESS and INTEGRITY is much more important to us than their accomplishments.

What does it mean to "love God"?

- "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching." – Jesus (John 14:23)
- "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God." – Jesus (John 3:3)

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Fatherhood: Priority, Strategy

- Developing a strategy:
 - Do your homework ("research")
 - Hone your observation skills (& communicate with your wife)
 - Parent "within the funnel"
 - Your STRATEGY depends on YOUR GOAL!
- So, now that you know our GOAL, what is our STRATEGY? See the rest of this talk.

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Shelter from the world's culture

- Ellen Goodman's column (around 1993?)
 - Parents can no longer raise kids to conform to our culture.

Shelter from the world's culture

- Ellen Goodman's column (around 1993?)
- Middle schoolers' priorities:
 - 1. Popularity
 - 2. Sports
 - 3. Academics
 - 4. Character

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Shelter from the world's culture

- Ellen Goodman's column (around 1993?)
- Middle Schoolers' priorities:

<u>Culture</u> <u>God's Plan</u>

- 1. Popularity 1. Character
- 2. Sports 2. Academics
- 3. Academics 3. Sports
- 4. Character 4. Popularity

Shelter from the world's culture

- Our strategy:
 - Stay-at-home mom
 - Christian school until 8th grade
 - Very few sleep-overs (even limit play-overs)
 - No organized sports 'til 5th grade; then 1/yr
 - No Facebook until 2nd semester high school
 - And probably our biggest one...
 - NO TELEVISION! (gasp)

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Create the culture you want

- African missionaries
- Read to the kids every night
- Create a reading environment
- Dinner together every night
- Good music on the whole-house stereo
- Boredom leads to CREATIVITY
- More time for hobbies
 - Juggling, knitting, ping pong, accordion

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Create the culture you want

- Carefully selected movies
- Limit isolation (bedroom, headphones)
- Piano lessons, grades 3-7
- Marching Band in high school

Create the culture you want

- BE INVOLVED IN A LOCAL CHURCH!
 - Awana, Youth Group, Youth Choir, Boy Scouts, Sunday School
 - We chose our house location after finding our church when we moved here

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Create the culture you want

- Manners: Behavior precedes attitude
 - "Interrupt rule"
 - "David, please pass the salt." (set a timer)
 - Swearing in our Boy Scout troop
 - "Rosie Moment" at the dinner table

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Purposely build character

- Discipline
- Kids must learn how to WORK!
- Strong-willed child?
- Adventure/independence

Discipline

Air Force Academy: "Before you learn how to LEAD, you must first learn how to FOLLOW."



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Discipline

"Discipline your children while there is hope. Otherwise, you will ruin their lives."

Discipline

"Discipline your children while there is hope. Otherwise, you will ruin their lives."

Discipline is NOT YELLING! (All kids deserve a peaceful home.)

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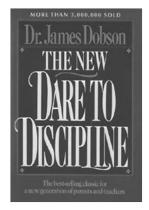
Discipline

- Proverbs 19:18 (NLT): Discipline your children while there is hope.
- Dr. Kevin Leman: "Have a New Kid by Friday"



Discipline

- Proverbs 19:18 (NLT): Discipline your children while there is hope.
- Dr. Kevin Leman
- Dr. James Dobson

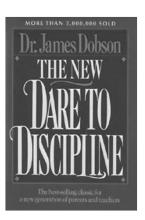


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Discipline

- Dobson on spanking:
 - Only from 1.5 5 years old
 - Must be consistent and predictable, reacting to a deliberate act of disobedience
 - Always in private
 - Always talk and pray first
 - Always hug afterward it can be a beautiful restoration



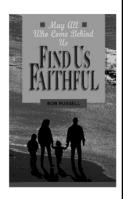
Purposely build character

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Learning how to WORK

- "Find Us Faithful" Sunday School class taught by Dennis Wolf
 - One of the biggest problems (unique to our era) is that there is not enough work to do!
 - One solution proposed by this book...



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- But first, let me ask:
 - Do you think that good health is a gift from God?
 - Would you like MORE of this gift?
 - Do you think that financial success is a gift from God?
 - Would you like MORE of this gift?
 - Do you think CHILDREN are a gift from God?
 - Would you like MORE of this gift?
 - Simple: HAVE MORE KIDS!

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Learning how to WORK

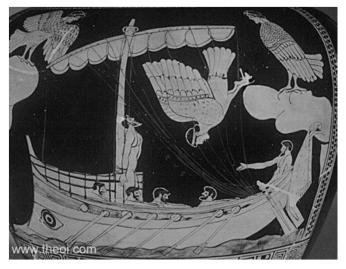
Wake-up call: Ben at Nick Wallace's



- Wake-up call: Ben at Nick Wallace's
- Chores: clean bathrooms, vacuum, trash, dinner table, kitchen
- Need to develop the HABIT and DESIRE to work! (Jasper unloading dishwasher at Thanksgiving)
- Kids cleaning up the table in 6-7 minutes
- Sometimes my biggest job is restraining Beth

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Learning how to WORK



- Pay market rates for big jobs like mowing the lawn (no riding mower or snowblower)
- The money must MEAN something!
 - Younger kids: gifts for birthday parties
 - Older kids: cell phones
 - Even older: CARS!
 - School trips

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Learning how to WORK

- They need to learn how to handle the money they earn:
 - Age 3: Larry Burkett's "Giving Bank":
 - Saving
 - Spending
 - Giving



- They need to learn how to handle the money they earn:
 - Age 3: Larry Burkett's "Giving Bank"
 - Age 8: Real checking account
 - Age 12: Debit card (YIKES!)

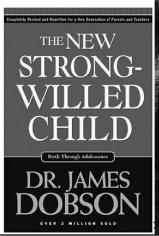
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Purposely build character

- Discipline
- Kids must learn how to WORK!
- Strong-willed child?
- Adventure/independence

Strong-willed child

⊕ Emily (Haley) Mason





Strong-willed child

David Arneberg ("spunky monkey")



2/2015

Purposely build character

- Discipline
- Kids must learn how to WORK!
- Strong-willed child?
- Adventure/danger/independence

(important for older boys)

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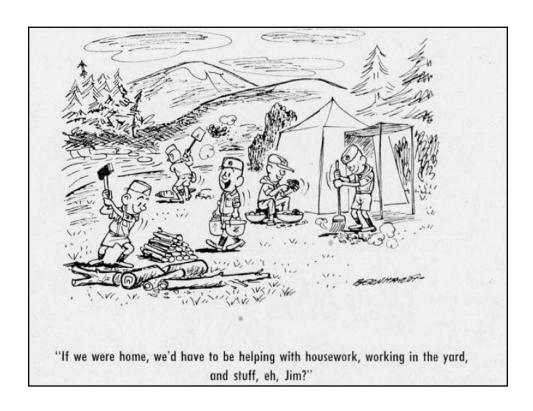
Adventure/Independence T warned you that someday your past would catch up with you."

(2-minute video: Using adventure and danger in training a modern-day knight)

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Adventure/Independence

- Boy Scouts of America
 - Adventure: camping, biking, canoeing, backpacking, traveling
 - **№ Patrol Leader/Senior Patrol Leader**
 - Ranks:
 - "Modern Day Knight": Page boy -> Squire -> Knight
 - BSA: Tenderfoot -> 2nd class -> 1st -> Star -> Life -> Eagle
 - Royal Rangers, Christian Service Brigade



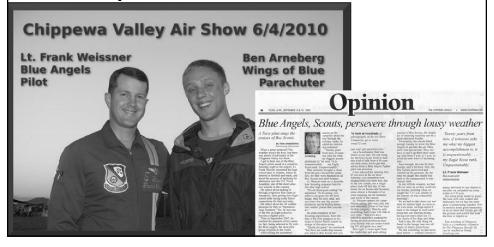
Adventure/Independence

- Boy Scouts big milestones:
 - "Wilderness Survival" Merit badge
 - Order of the Arrow "Ordeal"
 - "Zero Hero"
 - N. Tier/ Philmont/ Rayado



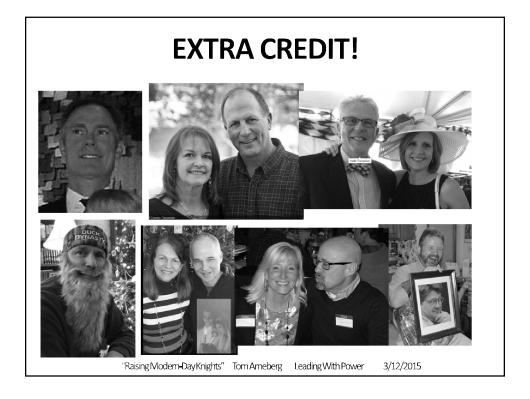
Purposely build character

Blue Angels pilot: "What was my biggest accomplishment in life?"



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Conclusion

 If you prioritize fatherhood, you can raise kids that are an absolute JOY to be around! (40 days w/5 kids under 11!)



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- If you prioritize fatherhood, you can raise kids that are an absolute JOY to be around! (40 days w/5 kids under 11!)
- Drove to all 48 states over the years with five kids
- Lots of big high-adventure trips
- So far, 4 out of 4 are independent by 20

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Conclusion

- The hard thing is that "success" means they leave – but NO REGRETS
- "Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from Him. Like arrows in the hands of a warrior are children born in one's youth. Blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them."
 - Psalm 127:3

Conclusion

- The last thing you want is to REACH THE TOP of the LADDER of SUCCESS...only to find that it's leaning against the WRONG WALL!
- So make it a PRIORITY to clarify your GOALS, and then come up with your STRATEGY. Fatherhood is the most important job you will ever have.

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March 12, 2015 Tom Arneberg Leading With Power