

# RELATIONSHIPS

## 1 PRAY ABOUT IT

\*see front cover

### GOD'S DESIGN FOR IT 2



\*Before you talk, ground your conversation in the truth on this topic.



## 3 TALK ABOUT IT

\*Adults ask boys first, then boys ask the same question

- Who do you think knows the real you? Why?
- Do you ever feel lonely or ignored? When?
- What are physical things that people do that communicate respect for another person?
- Do you see me showing love and respect for others?
- How could we grow in showing kindness and respect to each other in our family?
- Do you feel like making and keeping friends is easy for you? What parts are hard?
- Do your friends bring out the best parts of you? Do you bring out the best parts of them? How?
- Are there certain people that you have trouble treating kindly? Why do you think this is?
- How could you start being intentional about loving them like Jesus would?
- Do you feel connected with people at church and have Jesus following friends? How could you get more connected?

## PRACTICE IT 4

Actively communicate respect: A solid handshake with eye contact, always putting down a phone/device or pausing a tv or game when someone speaks to you, answering when spoken to, instant obedience when asked to do something

# DESIRES

## PRAY ABOUT IT 1

\*see front cover

### 2 GOD'S DESIGN FOR IT



\*Before you talk, ground your conversation in the truth on this topic.



## TALK ABOUT IT 3

\*Adults ask boys first, then boys ask the same question

- What makes someone beautiful to you?
- How can someone be beautiful on the inside?
- What do you think Jesus valued most in women?
- How are other boys your age talking about girls and their bodies? How does this make you feel?
- Have you seen images or videos that have made you feel desirous? What did you do?
- Are you ever actively thinking about images or videos you've seen?
- How can you keep yourself from looking with intent at women or pictures of women?
- Do you ever have any thoughts or desires that make you feel worried or guilty?
- How can I help you to honor God in this area?

## 4 PRACTICE IT

When you see a girl - practice the 123

# PASSAGE CONVERSATION GUIDE



## MAKE A PLAN

Women like talking knee to knee, facing each other, while men tend to prefer to do their talking shoulder to shoulder. Plan 5 times to meet to talk to your son, ideally while you do something special together. This could be a project you work on together, an outing like golf or fishing, or even as simple as grilling dinner together.

**Think about something that you and your son would enjoy doing together, plan a specific time with this specific purpose, and protect it from conflicts or interruptions.**

## START WITH PRAYER

Intentionally leading your son, **authentically ask God** for:

- wisdom
- humility
- a soft heart to help you truly know your son
- open ears to hear both his spoken and unspoken communication
- conviction in areas of your life that do not line up with what you are trying to impart to your son
- healing in any areas of hurt or misshaping that your son has acquired from his relationship with you or others.

## PLAN TO LISTEN

Remember that these are conversations not lectures. One of the main goals of this milestone is to make sure that you keep open **TWO WAY communication between you and your son** into the teen years. While you definitely have a message to get across in your time together, make it a priority to give your son plenty of space to talk. Practice active listening. Don't be too quick to jump to an answer, but instead pause to hear and validate his words. Ask God in the pause to help you understand your son's deeper questions, fears, and insecurities before you impart any wisdom.



# MANHOOD

**1** PRAY ABOUT IT  
\*see front cover

**2** GOD'S DESIGN FOR IT



\*Before you talk, ground your conversation in the truth on this topic.



**3** TALK ABOUT IT  
\*Adults ask boys first, then boys ask the same question

- What is your dream job? Why?
- What are some things that make you feel most like a man when you're doing them?
- What are some things that are good about being a man?
- What are some things you think are hard about being a man today?
- Who do you know that is a good example of manhood? What do you see in his life that makes you think this?
- How does being passive fail God's good design? Aggressive?
- Jesus is the perfect man. In what ways does your life look like His?
- Think about your life - are you actively making the world around you better? How could you start?



**4** PRACTICE IT

Think of a way that you can work to serve your mom or siblings this week.

# HABITS

**1** PRAY ABOUT IT  
\*see front cover

**2** GOD'S DESIGN FOR IT



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**3** TALK ABOUT IT  
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- What are the top three things you spend your time doing?
- What do you spend the most time thinking about?
- What do you most want to spend money on?
- What does this say about what you value?
- Who/What do you spend the most time listening to each day? (Do they help you love God more?)
- What part of the world do you get most easily sucked in by?
- What is the thing that makes you feel closest to God while you're doing it? (How could you incorporate that more into your daily routine?)
- What is the thing that makes you feel furthest from God while you're doing it? (Should this be cut out of your life? How can you take action to do that?)



**4** PRACTICE IT

Replace one habit in your daily routine with one that helps you love God more.



# CHARACTER



**1** PRAY ABOUT IT  
\*see front cover

**2** GOD'S DESIGN FOR IT



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**3** TALK ABOUT IT  
\*Adults ask boys first, then boys ask the same question

- What things do you like to work hard at? What things do you hate working on?
- What do you think is God's favorite thing about you?
- Who is the most generous person you know? Why?
- Would people at your school know that you love Jesus? Why or why not?
- Why do you think it's hard to wait for things you want?
- What are some of the biggest decisions that you have made or will have to make in your life?
- How can you be sure you are making good decisions that please God?
- If something really bad happened in your life, what would happen in your relationship with God?



**4** PRACTICE IT

Look for Christlike character traits on display in people you are around this week. Make it a challenge to point out 10.