

The Moral Compass

Parent Conference Guide

Sexual Purity

Talking to children about sex has always been difficult for parents. It presents many problematic questions, such as:

- “Is a _____ really necessary?”
- “What questions will they (my children) ask?”
- “Will I have to go into my _____?”
- “Will I have to talk about the anatomy of it all?”

The church has the _____, but not the _____. Parents have the _____, but aren't delivering the _____.

God's Plan for Sexual Purity

1. Society's Views

- a. Society takes no _____ stand and _____ that students will engage in sexual activity. It approaches the subject from a physical health standpoint, seeking to help students protect themselves from disease and pregnancy.
- b. Society views sex, not as an _____ builder within a committed marriage relationship, but rather as an _____ of passion.

2. God's Views

God _____ the sexual union between a man and a woman.

He also created the context for this union:

_____.

God's design for sex is to build _____ in the relationship between a husband and his wife.

Another portion of this blessing is the fruit of this union: _____.

We are quick to tell people that our children are a _____ from God, but we will do everything in our power to keep from telling our kids about the _____ of God which resulted in their birth.

Why is that? It's because we see sex as something dirty and wrong.

Sex becomes something taboo and dirty when it is removed from God's _____ of marriage.

3. *Emphasizing the benefits*

Society seeks to educate people as to the dangers associated with sexual activity by informing them of those dangers and how to “_____” avoid them.

God seeks to have people commit to purity and its benefits, which will help them “_____” avoid any dangers.

Students will not avoid _____ because they are well acquainted with the consequences of promiscuity. They will remain pure because they are _____, and desire its benefits.

Some of the benefits of purity are:

Waiting gives honor to God’s plan and order in your life.

Waiting is a _____ of radical allegiance to Jesus.

Waiting holds purity as a precious treasure, which is to be protected and preserved.

Waiting prohibits the possibility of a contracted STD or _____.

Waiting retains for a single person, within marriage, what is appropriately theirs.

Waiting refuses the worldly view that true love requires _____ for fulfillment.

Waiting gives us power over sexual drives, opening the possibility for experiencing the highest in sexual expression.

Waiting avoids the _____ that comes with lost purity.

Waiting helps us stay on a straight and narrow path, which helps us avoid contracting other polluting traits of a decaying world.

Waiting exercises and shows a self-control, which gives us a greater sense of self-worth.

Who is responsible for communicating this plan to students?

God says: _____!

Parents are responsible for morally educating and giving direction to their children. Deuteronomy 6:6-9 says, “*These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.*”

Students say: _____!

Over 90% of students surveyed said that information they receive about sex *should* come from their parents, although less than one in three says their info concerning sex comes from mom and/or dad.

How do I communicate God’s Plan?

Establish the priority

All parents seek in some way to help their children with sexual issues because the dangers are so devastating.

It is imperative then, that as a parent, you establish the priority of addressing this issue with your children.

You need to:

- Accept God's directive to be the _____ of your children.
- Pray for God's wisdom, timing, and _____ in teaching your children.
- Determine to _____ according to the principles you _____.
- Accept that moral education is more about the _____ than the _____.

Dealing with your issues

How to gain comfort in addressing the issue...

Instead of _____ over explaining the explicit physical details, _____ the opportunity to explain to your child that a great sex life is found within the loving, encouraging purity of a committed marriage relationship.

Your past and your child's past

The _____ of your past or the _____ of your past can be a critical help to your communication of moral truths to your child.

Some keys:

Don't _____ your past.

Your children have not been _____ to commit your mistakes.

You do not have to go into every detail of your past. If your past was flawed, teach about _____. If your past was exemplary, teach about _____.

Consider that your child may have a "past" as well.

c. Questions that your child may ask you

Some questions that may come up are:

What did you do?

Why can't I make my own mistakes?

What if we're in love?

Is God just opposed to people having fun?

Different Approaches/Creating Opportunities

Sex talks that don't work

_____ graphic anatomy lesson.

"_____ " approach.

The bad _____.

_____.

Employ multiple, effective techniques

Teachable moments

_____ – Some teachable moments happen by accident.

_____ – You can design teachable moments.

Tips:

Don't break into a _____.

Ask good _____.

In teachable moments, often the lesson is _____ and _____.

Q & A – The art of listening

Q & A can be powerful as a part of a _____ exchange with your teenager.

Ask _____ questions and not “yes” or “no” questions.

Poor: “Is everything alright with you and Regan?” “Yes.” “Do you like her mom?”
“No.”

Better: “If you were Regan’s mom, how would you handle Regan’s problems at school?”

Ask specific, rather than general, questions.

(Note: If you use Q & A, be prepared to answer as many questions as you ask. This is an exchange, not an interrogation.)

Family Devotions

Pick a day and time and make it a _____.

Make it _____. (Games, music, variety)

Make it _____. (Create different atmospheres, celebrate special occasions, affirm one another)

Note: The devotion approach could be used effectively on an individual basis as well.
(Example: Meet with your teen one-on-one and journal together through the New Testament.)

Resources for family devotions are available from many Christian publishers.

Vital attitudes and actions in approaching your child

_____ is the final authority. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Don't be judgmental.

Be _____.

Be comforting.

Be “*care*”fronting. This is “as opposed to *confronting*.” You need to be a _____, not a _____.

Be _____. Talking to your child about sex is not a “one-time” shot.

4. Setting boundaries (*Parents & Students*)

Dating

What kind of person will I date?

What is the _____ age for dating?

What are the guidelines for _____ dates or _____ dates?

What are acceptable and unacceptable places to go?

What is my _____?

Culture

What are the guidelines for my _____?

What are the guidelines for what I can _____?

What are the guidelines for my _____?

Contracts

Sometimes a written contract can be used to clearly articulate the guidelines for acceptable and unacceptable behavior, and to outline the consequences for breaking the contract. (Reference: www.kidscontracts.com)

Include:

_____ of people to date

Length of dates

Determine quantity of time spent alone

Curfews

_____ _____ places

Church attendance

_____ Rules (Time spent on phone; calling if there is trouble or a change in plans, etc.)

_____ for breaking contract

Parent Response (Include statements that will address such issues as how parents react to situations, waiting until the next morning to ask questions, etc.)

Optional: 40 Hour Rule – A person has to spend 40 hours getting to know the parents of the person they are wanting to date.

Church commitment

_____ regular attendance

_____ Child

5. Making it possible

The key element in a child's determination to pursue purity is the parent's personal involvement in their child's relationships.

Tips:

Don't be a _____. That's not involvement. That's being a nuisance. And it doesn't communicate purity.

Be a _____. Open your home. Create times for you to observe your child in relationship and for the person they are dating to observe your family.

Options for relationships

Dating – Dating tends to be more casual than courtship. Dating relationships may vary from casual friendships to serious prospects for marriage. Dating serves as a way to get to know people. The knock on dating is that an emotional and physical intimacy develops too quickly in these casual, non-committal relationships.

Courtship – Courtship usually springs from a friendship which has the desire to grow into something more. It is a committed relationship intended to result in marriage.

Good principles to apply to either choice

- _____ and _____ the approval of parents before entering into a romantic relationship.
- Waiting to start a _____ relationship until you are at the age where you could consider getting married.
- Entering into the relationship with the _____ _____ the idea of marriage, not just going out for fun with no serious intentions.
- Setting high standards for _____ _____.

Modeling the behavior

If you are married, the relationship you have with your spouse should model the type of _____ and _____ you would want your son or daughter to have with his or her future spouse.

If you are a single parent, the relationships you model in your dating life should reflect the purity you desire to see in your student's life.

The standards are not different for you in regard to purity. What you _____, _____ _____, take part in, all reflect the standard you *will* pass on. If you desire to pass on _____, you will have to model it.

Encouraging good decisions

Too often we _____ at bad decisions, but fail to encourage our children when they make good ones. Find both _____ and _____ ways to express your appreciation and respect for a well-made decision.