

Preparing Your Kids for Dating

Parent Meeting Packet Contains:

Promotional Poster



Teaching Plan



General Information Sheet



Parent Worksheet



Parent Resource Page

Preparing Your Kids for Dating Teaching Plan (1 hour)

Time: 45 Minutes

Equipment Needed: One copy of the Preparing Your Kids for Dating worksheet and the Parent Resource page for each parent present; a chalkboard or dry erase marker board and markers; pens or pencils for each person

Plan: Hand out the parent worksheets and present the *Preparing Your Kids for Dating General Information*. The parts in bold red are the answers to the blanks on the parent worksheet. After each number (1-3) stop and lead the group in discussion.

After # 1: Hand out the Parent Resource page to each parent. Go over several of the resources, highlighting a few in particular. Encourage parents to mention any books, magazines, or websites, which are not on the resource page that they have read/viewed and would like to recommend.

After # 2: Break parents up into two groups. Have one group brainstorm five things they want their children to remember every time they go on a date. Have the other group brainstorm five things that are definitely not allowed on a date. Give the groups a few minutes to work and then use the marker board to record their answers. Discuss the findings.

After #3: Ask parents to share stories about their first dates. Ask them how things would have been different had their parents taken them on a mock date.

Finish going over the remaining info on the parent worksheet. Ask the following: “Do you think chivalry and respect are ever out of style?”

Allow plenty of time for any discussion and/or questions.

Time: 15 Minutes

Equipment Needed: None

Plan: Prayer. Have a time of concentrated prayer on the issues covered in this lesson. Have parents pray in groups for the following:

- That their children would learn how to relate to the opposite sex.
- That their children would respect the people they date.
- That their children would be respectful of the parents of those they date.
- That their children would seek to honor God with their lives.
- That their children would not see dating as a chance for physical exploration, but rather as an opportunity to exercise relational skills while building relationships.

Preparing Your Kids for Dating
Parent Resource Page

Books

Dating, Clues for the Clueless; Christopher D. Hudson, compiler; Publishers Promise Press

Every Young Man's Battle; Stephen Arterburn; Waterbrook Press

Passion & Purity, Elizabeth Elliot; Fleming H. Revell Co.

Raising a Modern-Day Knight; Robert Lewis; Focus on the Family Publishing

How & When to Talk to Your Kids About Sex; Stanton L. & Brenna B. Jones; NavPress

Sexual Resolutions; Paul Kelly; LifeWay

True Love Waits Takes A Look at Courting, Dating, and Hanging Out; David Payne; LifeWay

Pure Joy: God's Formula for Passionate Living; Paul Turner, Matt Tullos, and Kristi Wyatt; LifeWay

Until You Say I Do; Jay & Diane Strack; LifeWay

Worth The Wait; Paul Abner; Worth The Wait Ministries, 405-728-0916

You Want To Pierce What?; Walker Moore; Albury Publishing

How To Stay a Christian in College; J. Budziszewski; NavPress

Raising Them Chaste; Richard C. & Renee Durfield; Bethany House Publishers

When True Love Doesn't Wait; D. Tony Rankin & Richard Ross; LifeWay

Websites:

www.cpyu.org

www.family.org

Preparing Your Kids for Dating

Parent Worksheet

The sexual revolution (1965-75) was a failure. The courtship methods passed along through tradition that had their roots in that period can only lead to the same failures. So how do you equip your kids to be able to go about dating without coming out with enough scars to rival a briar-patch wrestler?

1. _____ – Don't expect the dating paradigm of the sexual revolution to be healthy. There are many new ideas about relationships that can help your teenager. I suggest that you read books about dating and courtship that will add new light to your current understanding of premarital relationships.
2. _____ – Before they are old enough to date, begin to let them know things that will be expected of them, especially if the things you expect are not the norm. Look for _____. Point out things that you may see older kids doing that you _____. The _____ is a great teaching place.
3. _____ – Before they go out with the opposite sex, take them on a mock date. I suggest _____ with _____ and _____ with _____. In fact, it's a good idea to start "A Date with Dad" or "A Date with Mom" at an early age. It becomes a special time together and gives you the opportunity to stealthily equip them for dating relationships.

Dads teach your daughters how to be _____. Teach them how to recognize a gentleman.

- Open the door for her
- _____ when she approaches
- Has her home _____
- Cares enough to _____ dates
- _____ parents

Tell her if he doesn't treat her right, to call and you'll drop everything to come and pick her up. Dads: be sure to take time to teach your sons and/or daughters how to _____.

Moms teach your sons how to respect women.

- Have him open doors
- Teach him the importance of respecting her parents
- Teach him how to creatively plan dates
- Teach him that he is her _____
- Teach him the magic of _____ (Guys don't inherently understand _____)



FOR: Parents of Youth

DATE: _____ TIME: _____ LOCATION: _____

Preparing Your Kids for Dating

General Information



“Remember your first date? Boy I do. In fact, I think I’m still traumatized by it. I went to pick up my date so unsure of myself because the only things that I knew that I was supposed to do were things that I had heard from my older friends. Looking back I now know that they were as clueless as I was. As much as I love and respect my parents, they never talked to me about how to conduct myself with the opposite sex, leaving me

ill-equipped for dating. The sad part is it didn’t stop there. I was clueless for a long time. God bless the girls I dated growing up.” *Paul Abner*

When the question is asked at parent seminars: “How many of you, looking back, were lost as far as knowing how to conduct yourself with the opposite sex?” The hands don’t just casually go up, they fly up and it’s usually unanimous.

The sexual revolution (1965-75) was a failure. The courtship methods passed along through tradition that had their roots in that period can only lead to the same failures. So how do you equip your kids to be able to go about dating without coming out with enough scars to rival a briar-patch wrestler?

1. **Educate Yourself** – Don’t expect the dating paradigm of the sexual revolution to be healthy. There are many new ideas about relationships that can help your teenager. I suggest that you read books about dating and courtship that will add new light to your current understanding of premarital relationships.
2. **Begin To Prepare Them Early** – Before they are old enough to date, begin to let them know things that will be expected of them, especially if the things you expect are not the norm. Look for **teachable moments**. Point out things that you may see older kids doing that you **won’t allow**. The **mall** is a great teaching place.
3. **Take Them on Their First Date** – Before they go out with the opposite sex, take them on a mock date. I suggest **girls** with **Dad** and **guys** with **Mom**. In fact, it’s a good idea to start “A Date with Dad” or “A Date with Mom” at an early age. It becomes a special time together and gives you the opportunity to stealthily equip them for dating relationships.

Dads teach your daughters how to be **respected**. Teach them how to recognize a gentleman.

- Open the door for her
- **Stand up** when she approaches

- Has her home **on time**
- Cares enough to **plan** dates
- **Respects** parents

Tell her if he doesn't treat her right, to call and you'll drop everything to come and pick her up. Dads: be sure to take time to teach your sons and/or daughters how to **change a flat tire**.

Moms teach your sons how to respect women.

- Have him open doors
- Teach him the importance of respecting her parents
- Teach him how to creatively plan dates
- Teach him that he is her **protector**
- Teach him the magic of **flowers** (Guys don't inherently understand **flowers**)