

# Parenting 101: The Teen Years 12-18

## Introduction – Cynicism

What do you think of when you hear the word teen?

*“The opportunity is in the trouble” – Paul Tripp*

### I. THE PRINCIPLE — TRAIN BY AIMING AT THE HEART (still)

*Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching, for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck. –Proverbs 1:8-9*

*My son, give me your heart, and let your eyes observe my ways. –Proverbs 23:26*

*Wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her. –Proverbs 8:11*

*Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid. –Proverbs 12:1*

*My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart. For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh. **Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.** –Proverbs 4:20-23*

### II. THE ANTI-GOAL — REGULATING BEHAVIOR

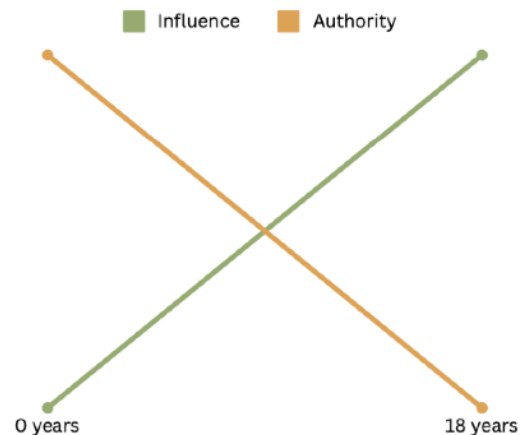
*If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations— “Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch” ...? These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh. – Colossians 2:20-23*

*"The rules-and-regulations approach that focuses on keeping the teenager 'out of trouble' will ultimately fail because it does not deal with the heart. As Paul so powerfully states, it 'lacks any value for restraining sensual indulgence.' What he means is that it does not deal with the source of a person's wrong behavior, the sinful desires of the heart. Peter says that the corruption in the world is caused by evil desires (2 Peter 1:4). We have to work at the level of the heart desires with our teenagers, or we will win lots of battles and ultimately lose the war. It is not enough to be detectives, jailers, and judges. We must pastor the hearts of our children with the kind of faithful, watchful care for their souls that we receive from our Heavenly Father." – Paul Tripp*

### A. Authority

### B. Influence

Become masters at rhetorical speech, asking great questions as Jesus did.  
Be persuasive not demanding.



## III. THE GOAL — FEAR THE LORD

*Praise the Lord! Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in his commandments! –Psalm 112:1*

The fear of God and joy in God are closely related.

*"Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it.' And he was afraid and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'" –Genesis 28:16-17*

#### IV. THE STRATEGY — CONSTANT CONVERSATION

*Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. –Hebrews 3:12-13*

##### A. Biblical Manhood & Womanhood

(\*Resource: Men and Women in the Church – Devin DeYoung)

##### B. Christian Calling

###### 1. Church

*And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. –Acts 2:42*

###### 2. Marriage

(\*Resource: “Vocatio” – A video series on YouTube from Trinity College of Louisville)

##### C. Utilitarianism

*“One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much.” – Luke 16:10*

*He has made everything beautiful in its time. –Ecclesiastes 3:11a*

(\*Resource: Spiritual Disciplines for the Christians Life – Donald Whitney)

## **PRIORITIES FOR PARENTS**

*“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, 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. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates. –Deuteronomy 6:4-9*

## **HOPE**

1. Your teen can be godly.

*“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word. –John 17:20*

*His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence. –2 Peter 1:3*

2. Take one thing with you.

## **RESOURCES:**

- Age of Opportunity – Paul Tripp
- Shepherding a Child’s Heart – Tedd Tripp