

092 07/30/01 Teaching son which young ladies to date?

Are you teaching your son how to decide which young ladies to date? Does he know what characteristics to look for in a mate? These are decisions that are too important to leave to chance.

It is much more difficult for parents to positively impact a son's choices of dates and wife than in previous generations. Even if you are actively telling your son about the characteristics that make a good wife, you will have tough competition from the advertising industry.

There are three things that parents should do to help a son make good choices in these areas. The most important thing to do is pray for him daily, even before he is born. Pray that he will become a man who loves the Lord and keeps His Word in his heart. Pray that he will early discover his God-given gifts to be used in his life's calling. Pray that he will follow God's Word in his choice of young ladies he dates and the one he ultimately chooses for a lifetime helpmate.

Secondly, pray for the young lady that he will marry long before he meets her. Pray that she becomes a woman who is also grounded in the Word. Pray that she keeps herself pure until God brings the two of them together.

Finally, teach your son to search the Scriptures to find God's guidance in the area of dating. Help him understand that dating should be looked upon as preparation for marriage. For that reason, dates should be chosen carefully.

Emphasize the concepts found in Proverbs 31:10-31. It will be necessary to translate the virtues of a good wife into today's language. Not many young ladies know how to operate a spindle or need to bring food from afar since we have a local supermarket. Proverbs 12:4 tell us that a "wife of noble character is her husband's crown." What man does not want to feel like a king?

Begin early in your son's life to prepare him for dating and marriage. Other than the choice to accept Christ as Lord and Savior, there is not a more important decision your son will make.