

River Valley Notes

PARENTAL GUIDANCE REQUIRED

Part #2: The Spirit of A Parent

July 22, 2007

Parents with solid teenaged children tend to embody two essential personal qualities:

- 1) Personal _____
- 2) Relational _____

Authenticity defined: When a thing conforms to what is represented or what it claims to be.

Personal Authenticity: Being _____ enough with who I am, to be who I am, _____ I am and whomever I'm with.

Relational Proximity: Being _____ and accessible physically, _____ and spiritually.

The Big Idea: Great parenting starts on the _____.

“Ultimately we all parent, not with our minds, but with our _____.”

The Authentic Parent:

- “I’m comfortable in my skin”
- “I don’t _____, wear masks, or project an image”
- “I don’t _____ for people, have a church-face or shift gears with my environment”
- “I am comfortable being _____ by people”
- “I am OK with _____”

The Two-Sided Journey Toward Authenticity:

- 1) Take down the _____
- 2) Bring up the _____

The Parent In Proximity:

a. Physical Proximity

- Physical _____
- Physical _____ is a scheduling priority

b. Emotional Proximity

- Communication without _____

Part #2: The Spirit of A Parent

...continued

- Ease in sharing feelings and mutual support; _____
- Sincere _____ in being with their kids
- Genuine engagement with & affection for their kids’ _____ group

c. Spiritual Proximity

- Spiritual _____ is normal & natural
- _____ is normal & natural; more spontaneous and less formal
- _____ about faith & doctrine are discussed freely

God On Authenticity & Proximity

Proverbs 6:16-19

There are six things the LORD hates—no, seven things he detests: ...a false witness who pours out lies... (NLT)

Ephesians 4:14-15

...we will hold to the truth in love, becoming more and more in every way like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. (NLT)

Ephesians 4:21-25

...So put away all falsehood and “tell your neighbor the truth” because we belong to each other. (NLT)

Malachi 4:5-6

“Look, I am sending you the prophet Elijah before the great and dreadful day of the LORD arrives. His preaching will turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the hearts of children to their parents... (NLT)

2Timothy 1:6-8

...For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. So you must never be ashamed... (NLT)

The Bull’s Eye of Personal Wholeness: _____ & _____

- The anecdote for the _____ in me: Truth.
- The anecdote for the _____ in me: Love.

Personal Assessment & Starting Point:

1. Ask _____ and answer courageously
2. Ask a trusted _____ and refuse to talk back
3. Let somebody _____ and grow _____