

The Intentional Journey

Frank Reed

All men live most of their first year of life inside of a woman – their mother
Close to her heart, living in and of her body
Born through a very delicate part of her body
Nursed at her breasts
Held close

That is bonding – that is good
Mothers love their sons – and that is good
And care for them in many ways - and that is good

But sometimes it is taken too far or lasts too long or is manipulative and controlling
Even after the sons are old enough to care for themselves
Even after the sons are dating and married
Mothers can dote on their sons

This will cause many problems

Boys grow up expecting and receiving good from their mothers

They then generalize this to expecting and demanding good from all women
All women are to serve them and meet their needs
(And plenty of women seem willing to provide this)

They take this into dating and expect the girls to meet their needs
Expect girls to set the standard for dating – this is wrong
Sets girls up as being in charge
Shows weakness of young men

What to do?

Fathers must convey to sons the need for them to be men

Young men/boys must make the transition from being boys to being men
(Mothers typically complicate this process)

Boy will **not** be boys – boys will be men

It is fine for boys to be boys when they are boys but
They must grow out of this stage

Stages of a man's life:

Prenatal – Infancy – Boyhood (*no adolescence*) – Young manhood – Manhood – Mentor – Patriarch

Between boyhood and young manhood a change must occur

He must now move from being cared for **by** women to him caring **for** women
He is now responsible **for** the girls and women he meets

And he must assume that responsibility

No matter how the women behave or dress in his presence

Jesus made this transition at 12 years of age (but was still subject to parents)

Apparently he had been taught well

Fathers must convey to sons the need for them to be men

Much of this is caught by example

Men , you must **Be the undisputed, GENTLE head of the home**

(only strong men can afford to be gentle)

If wife is head of home the children will be confused

A sinful syndrome → passive dad + aggressive mom = angry children

Require respect, not allow risqué comments and jokes

Proverbs → Instruction and commandments from father

Teaching from mother

Must require - fathers instructing and charging their sons with manhood

- sons to be absolutely respectful of sisters and mother

- mothers to let go of sons

Must give sons responsibility early – money, tasks

Allow sons to make mistakes – help pick up the pieces

Problem – There is no rite of passage

New terms have been coined – adulterence, kidult

Physically mature but emotionally and spiritually undeveloped

Advertising, media, porn cater to the adolescent, immature man

Resource Material

My Body Is Private

The important issues are discussed in a non-frightening yet serious manner and without providing too much detail about what can happen during a sexual abuse encounter. The goal is to educate children about prevention of sexual abuse without enlightening them with details about what actually can and does happen during a sexual abuse encounter; there is an element of innocence to be protected at their young ages.

Recommended for ages 4 and up.

The Garden Wall

Petra announces to her friend Seth that she wants to grow her own flower garden. He agrees to help her by building a wall to protect the delicate flowers from harm. But it's not easy. Will they give up? Can their friendship last when disaster strikes the garden? In this engaging children's story, healthy friendship grows into committed love as Seth and Petra build their beautiful garden and the wall to protect it. Children learn about having healthy relationships based on 1 Corinthians 13.

Recommended for ages 8 and up.

The Princess and the Kiss

A loving king and queen present their daughter with a gift from God--her first kiss--to keep or to give away. The wise girl waits for the man who is worthy of her precious gift. Where is he and how will she ever find him? The surprising answer in this marvelous parable will touch the heart of parent and child alike. *The Princess and the Kiss* beautifully portrays the ageless message that "love ... comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith" (1 Timothy 1:5).

Recommended for all ages, especially ages 6 and up.

The Squire and the Scroll

This captivating adventure follows a young squire who travels a long, dangerous road beside his brave knight on a quest for their king. The action builds until the final face-off with the monstrous, evil dragon. Only then does the Squire learn of the secret beyond the cave that ends in a joyous celebration for the entire kingdom. Children will gain valuable insight as they learn, along with the young squire, what it means to face the dangers of temptation, and what it takes to guard one's heart from all that is impure.

Recommended for ages 6 and up.

Passport2Purity

Teaching kids about the facts of life is so much more than just "the birds and the bees." It is surely one of the most awkward parts of parenting-especially in today's permissive society. Dennis and Barbara Rainey have created a fun, non-threatening way to connect with your children while teaching them godly principles of sexuality with the Passport2Purity program that will be life-changing for both of you.

Recommended for Pre-teen and up