

Entertainment Is Destroying The Family

Al Menconi wrote an article late last year about the effect of entertainment on the family unit. He writes, *“I believe entertainment is a major factor in the destruction of the family unit.”*

Entertainment is not the only factor in the breakdown of our families today, however, it does play a key role.

Al writes, “Whatever entertainment we participate in, we did as a family. We may not have talked while the program or movie was going on, but we laughed at the same jokes, cried at the same pathos, and were frightened by the same monsters. We experienced it together.” Today in our homes, cars, cottages, or schools teenagers are together but not connected and this lack of connecting leads to the eventual fracturing of the family unit.

Today, many families never or rarely sit down together and communicate. Teens are doing their own thing in their room and parents are doing their own thing in their room. Meals are eaten “on the run” and how often do families sit down and talk. Al writes, “If we don’t talk, we can’t get to know, understand, or communicate with each other. Eventually the family becomes fractured.”

Al provides a list of ten basics things mom and dad can do to get reacquainted with your teen and to draw the family unit together again.

Top Ten Things You Can Do Today

- 1) Get the television out of your teen’s bedroom. *(It is a lot harder to remove the TV once it is in the room.)*
- 2) If your teen has a computer in his room, don’t let it be connected to the Internet. *(The internet opens the door to many temptations you don’t want to expose your teen to in the privacy of their room.)*
- 3) Have all of your computers with Internet connection in a central location and the screen open to passers by. *(I personally would add that each computer have an accountability software like x3watch.)*
- 4) Limit your teenager’s screen time (TV’s, computers, IM, phones, games, MP3s) each day/week. *(You may need to work out schedules with multiple children on who uses what when and for how long.)*
- 5) Discuss TV shows, videos, music, and movies with your teenager and decide together what is appropriate for your family.
- 6) After you watch a program or a movie, discuss its worldview with your teen. Is it appropriate for your home? *(Takes time and effort but helping your teenager make wise decisions is invaluable.)*
- 7) Get to know your teenager’s video games. Play with them – it could be fun or it could be a chore. The point of this exercise is to get to know if the game is appropriate for your family’s entertainment consumption. *(Video games now are a bigger market than movies and target teenagers.)*
- 8) Have “dark days” where all electronic entertainment is off for the day and play table games.
- 9) Set the example with your entertainment. If a program is not appropriate for your teenager, it often isn’t appropriate for you as the parent either.
- 10) Pray that God, through you, will create a healthy environment for communication.

In Christ’s Love,
Pastor Kors Pater

Helpful Web Links

www.familylife.com
www.family.org
www.pluggedinonline.com
www.homeword.com
www.cpyu.org
www.familymatters.net
www.x3watch.com

Next Parent’s Meeting

Sunday June 15, 2008 (6:00 - 7:30 p.m.)

2008 Retreats

Retreats are an amazing time to get away for a weekend and focus on God and His will for your teenager with their peers.

May 30,31, June 1, 2008

Impact & Quest

Lambton United Church Center

September 12,13,14, 2008

Impact with Lambton Youth Network

Pearce Williams United Church Center

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ALBERT WAS QUITE IMPRESSED WITH HIS NEW
SAFE-SEARCH SOFTWARE

04-24-2003



Thanks to Anthony Moore

09-12-2006

IN AN EFFORT TO REACH THE MORE "TECHNOLOGICALLY INCLINED" WE WILL BE TEXT-MESSAGING SERMON NOTES

"Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine."

1 Timothy 4:12,13

Quest Sunday School

Peer Pressure and Reaching Your World are the two main topics for the Sunday School during March and April.

Quest Wednesday Nights

Quest begins a new series titled "Who Am I?" This series is design to help student understand who they are in God's eyes.

Impact Sunday School

Impact starts a series on worship followed by a series a book of the Bible.

Impact Wednesday Nights

Impact later in March will deal look at creation, separation, and the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus. These lessons all lead up to the Seder Meal on March 28th where we remember what God did in the Old Testament and more importantly what Christ has done for us. In April we are planning to look at equipping the students to reach their friends by examining biblical evangelism.

March & April 2008 Ministry Activities

Detail Information & Permission Forms Located At www.peoplesyouth.net

Quest	Wed. Mar. 12	Combined March Break Event with Impact (7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.)
	Wed. April 30	Photo Scavenger Hunt (6:45 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.)
	May 30,31, June 1	Year End Retreat at Lambton Center (details coming soon)
Impact	Fri. Mar. 7	Sarnia Sting Game
	Wed. Mar. 12	Combined March Break Event with Quest.
	Fri. Mar. 21	Good Friday Service (10:00 a.m.)
	Fri. Mar. 28	Seder Meal (Passover Meal) - Linking to the Lord's Table (7:00 - 10:00 p.m.)
	Fri. April 11	Activity yet to be determined (7:00 - 10:00 p.m.)
	Fri. April 25	Activity yet to be determined (7:00 - 10:00 p.m.)
	Sun. April 27	Grade 10 Small Group Meeting at the Paters (4:00 - 9:00 p.m.)
May 30,31, June 1	Year End Retreat at Lambton Center (details coming soon)	

Youth Summer Mission/Training - June 29 to July 4 in Toronto Ontario.

FREE Parenting Resource

I have a CD for you containing many parenting newsletters, articles, as well as some mp3 sermons done by top evangelical preachers. One three part series done by Al Moher deals with Parenting Teenagers In The Media Culture is well worth the listen. If you would like a CD please contact me and I would be more than happy to give you this valuable resource filled with articles to encourage you and strengthen you as you raise your teenagers.

Impact Summer Mission/Training/MERGE

There have been some significant changes with MERGE, a conference lead by SonLife over the past month or so. Long story short, MERGE has been cancelled, however, there are a group of godly evangelical men who are now working at bringing a conference to Toronto (June 29 - July 4) with the format of the conference formerly known as SEMP. At the present I am not aware of all the details, however, at Peoples we are planning to attend the conference in Toronto or do a training of some sort during that time for your teenager. Please pray for the leadership in this Toronto group as they work to put this worthwhile conference on, and for those students who are planning or thinking about going to this training conference. I will keep you informed as information is filtered to me.

Impact Resource Center & Room

There are now numerous resources in the Impact room for your teenager to pick up and read over or pass on to a friend. We are looking to continue expanding this area in the near future. If you have heard or noticed, the Impact room has recently been renovated. On Wednesday March 12th we are looking to finish off these renovations.