

# SESSION 4

## Raising Responsible Sons | Years 15-19



**Psalm 127:4**

*Children born to a young man are like arrows in a warrior's hands.*

We are launching them into the world with great \_\_\_\_\_.

### A TALE OF TWO TREES

**Jeremiah 17:5-8**

*<sup>5</sup> Thus says the LORD: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. <sup>6</sup> He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. <sup>7</sup> "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. <sup>8</sup> He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit." (ESV)*

In season and out of season, he is \_\_\_\_\_.

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### CHARACTERISTICS OF PARENTS WHO ARE OBSTACLES

**They fear exposure.**

You and your wife will be \_\_\_\_\_.

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**They love the approval of men.**

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**They are unreflective.**

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**MOVING FROM CONTROL TO INFLUENCE**

- Our job is to be \_\_\_\_\_.
- Move from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.
- Influential people are people who have \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ with our kids through this stage.
- We've got to be willing to own our \_\_\_\_\_ in the moment, and create a \_\_\_\_\_ where they can own theirs.
- We have to \_\_\_\_\_.
- The currency of relationships is \_\_\_\_\_.
- What he needs is a \_\_\_\_\_ who has influence.

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**DIGGING DEEPER CHANNELS**

**Pursue:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ work
- \_\_\_\_\_ how to love people

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**Protect:**

- Taking the \_\_\_\_\_ in a situation so others can live and work in the \_\_\_\_\_.

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**Provide:**

- We're trying to raise sons who are successful enough at something they can:
    - » Provide for \_\_\_\_\_ entirely.
    - » Provide a \_\_\_\_\_ for those above them.
    - » Provide an \_\_\_\_\_ to those who are under them.
  - Get a \_\_\_\_\_ in this season.
    - » When they work, they develop a \_\_\_\_\_ to sustain them in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - If we \_\_\_\_\_ this kind of space for our sons, they will have \_\_\_\_\_ in the world.
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**QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION**

1. What are my weaknesses as a man, and how are they limiting my ability to move my son towards this vision of manhood? What are the first steps for me?
2. Are you on a pathway toward influence in your son's life? Why or why not?
3. Is your wife on board with a healthy vision for masculinity? If not, where is she out of step? What do you need to do to help her partner with you and your son in this process?