



## Passing the Baton of a Good Home

Adapted from "Passing the Baton" series by Scott Erickson

The greatest legacy we can leave is our children and grandchildren. At the end of your life, what would you like your obituary to say? Now, is the time to begin to write it.

We read of a wealthy man who purchased at high cost a famous painting of Jesus. He sought, with difficulty, an appropriate place for it on the walls of his home. At last he called in an architect who, after carefully examining the house and the picture, said: "Man, you cannot fit this picture into your home! You must make a home to fit it!" Just as surely we must so order our home life that it would be appropriate to invite Jesus to abide therein.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Paul Lee Tan, *Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations: Signs of the Times*, (Garland, TX: Bible Communications, Inc. 1996), 736.

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## COURAGE

**C1:** Describe your childhood. Include what you did for fun activities and the games you played in your house growing up.

**C2:** Write out the values you were taught as a child. Who and where were those values taught?

**C3:** Today it seems as if kids are void of values and convictions. Read and answer the following.

**1 Corinthians 9:24–27 (ESV)** Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

- What important things of life will you pass on to your children and grandchildren?
  
- What does this verse speak to you about life?

## STRENGTH

**S1:** The race of life is something we must all understand. Read and answer the following.

### 1 Corinthians 9:24 (ESV)

- From the verse, what do you learn about the race of life?
- What is the purpose of running the race?
- On a scale of 1-4, with 1 being very well and 4 not being very well, rate yourself on how well you are running the race of life. How can you improve?

**S2:** Just like an athlete has training before an event to prepare for the event, so in life preparation is needed. Read and answer the following.

### 1 Corinthians 9:25 (ESV)

### Proverbs 4:7 (ESV)

### Proverbs 16:16 (ESV)

### Proverbs 9:10 (ESV)

- From these verses, what are three things we must do to prepare?
- On a scale of 1-4, with 1 being very well and 4 not well, how prepared are you to run life's race?



## ENDURANCE

**E1:** Athletes spend thousands of dollars to make sure their minds are prepared for the race. Read and answer the following.

**John 16:33 (ESV)**

**Psalm 84:4–7 (ESV)**

**Psalm 84:11 (ESV)**

- From these verses, what are two things you can learn about life?
  
- On a scale from 1-4, with 1 being very well and 4 being not well, rate yourself on how you deal with the difficulties in life. Write out a plan to improve.

**E2:** Read and answer the following.

**1 John 4:9–10 (ESV)**

**1 Peter 1:22–23 (ESV)**

- From these scriptures, what are two things you discovered about running the race of life?

**E3:** When running the race of life, we have a training manual to follow. Read and answer the following.

**James 1:2–4 (ESV)**

**1 Corinthians 10:13 (ESV)**

- From these scriptures, what are two principles you glean when facing obstacles in life?

- From these scriptures, what are four proper responses to difficulties in life?

**E4:** A father feels the weight to pass on these instructions to his kids and grandkids. Write out your plan to pass on what matters most to your children and grandchildren – your values and convictions.