

## Bring Them Up

### I. Slide1 **Announce:**

- A. Slide2-6 Larry: Harvest. Better Together. Calling Artists. Thanksgiving Eve. Thrill.
- B. Slide7a/b This is the *International Day of Prayer* for the Persecuted church. Video.
  - 1. Slide8 Tonight: Sun Night Prayer...*The Persecuted Church*. Interactive.
- C. Some of you new Rick & Jenny Boyd. Jenny went to be w/the Lord this last week. The memorial is this Fri, 11/10, at *Calvary Bible Fellowship* in Tem, at 10am.

### II. Slide9 **Intro: Bring Them Up**

- A. *Bring Them Up: Children*, bring your *parents* up by *obeying* & *esteeming* them. *Parents*, bring your *children* up by *training* & *admonishing* them.
- B. Read 6:12 about *spiritual warfare*. It seems that most of our spiritual battle comes from these 3 areas: *In Marriage* (last week), *In the Home*, *next week on the Job*, *then On the Battlefield*.
  - 1. *Spirit filled Christians* will manifest *Christlikeness* in each of these situations.
- C. Slide10 I like to imagine that the world is one big machine. You know, machines never have any extra parts. They have the exact number and type of parts they need. So I figure if the entire world is a big machine, I have to be here for some reason. And that means **you** have to be here for some reason, too. ~ Brian Selznick, *The Invention of Hugo Cabaret* **Pray:**
- D. Slide11-17 What was your family life like growing up? (awkward fam photo's)
  - 1. We have been *dysfunctional* since Adam & Eve.

### III. Slide18a **CHILDREN (1-3)**

- A. 2 Things: *Obey* & *Honor*. (both should be exercised continuously)
- B. Slide18b **OBEY** (1)
  - 1. If children do not learn to *obey at home*, they are not likely be obedient to their teachers, on their jobs, to the police, or anyone in authority, **or** in the army of the Lord. **That's why learning in the home is sooo important.**
  - 2. If we have not learned to **take orders**, we will not be too successful at **giving orders**, either as parents **or** employees.
- C. Slide18c **HONOR** (2,3) *to value or revere something/someone.*

D. Parents are to be **honored**.

1. You're a child for a little while **but** someone's child forever.

a) **When you're younger** you need to *obey* your parents;

**When you're older** you need to still *honor* your parents.

2. Many Jewish writers believed that **honoring one's parents** was the most important commandment. *IVPBBCNT*

E. **How do we honor *dishonorable* parents?**

1. Some of you have **legit hurts**. Others though have *unreasonable expectations*.

2. **How do you deal with a *dishonorable* parent?**

a) Prov.19:11 **And his glory is to overlook a transgression**. Remember your parents are *fallen sinners*. [maybe for some it's to cut them some slack]

b) For others, maybe it's the ability to at least be able to *Salute the uniform*. May not respect the one **in** the uniform, **but** must honor **the** uniform.

(1) At least honor motherhood & fatherhood.

F. **Paul sites the 5th commandment.**

1. **Slide19** Deut.5:16 *Honor your father and your mother, as the Lord your God has commanded you, that your days may be long, and that it may be well with you in the land which the Lord your God is giving you.* (Gentiles didn't get this 2nd part)

a) **Live long** - It is improbable that an *undisciplined person* will live a long life.

b) An Israelite who persistently disobeyed his parents was not privileged to enjoy a long, stable life in the land of Israel.

#### **IV. Slide20 PARENTS (4)**

A. Yes, parents are to be **honored**...so *BE honorable*.

1. Also, notice that *respect* is to go both ways.

B. **In first-century Greco-Roman society, fathers had complete authority within the household to administer discipline.** So the danger was/is being an *authoritarian* & not exercising *loving spiritual authority*.

1. The delicate balance of being *tough yet tender* isn't easy to maintain.

- C. **Fathers** are addressed because they represent *the headship of the family* on whom rests the **responsibility** of child discipline. (no, moms aren't exempt in provoking)
- D. **Provoke** – making unreasonable demands, petty rules, or showing favoritism.
1. **Slide21a-n Best way to provoke:** compare them to their siblings (or others). have unrealistic standards (out of reach). over-indulge them (especially when you feel guilty for not handling a situation rt). discourage them when possible. don't ever reward them (Luther used to say, *Spare the rod and spoil the child* - that is true, **but** beside the **rod** keep an **apple**, to give him when he has done well). don't fulfilled your promises to them. treating them like *boarders* rather than children. don't admit your mistakes. ridicule them. neglect them. use abusive cutting words. especially sarcasm. or physical abuse. **These are the best ways to provoke.**
- E. **Bring them up** – *To rear or nourish.*
1. Provide for **physical and spiritual** needs w/**tender care**.
- F. **Training** – speaks of discipline used to correct transgressions of laws.
1. It includes directing and correcting.
- G. **Admonition** – Instruction. (a putting in mind, training by word)
1. By encouragement & when that isn't sufficient then by **reproof**.
- H. **Slide22** Parents are to train and instruct *in the Lord*...**He is to be the center** of their relationship, their teaching, & learning.
- I. **Slide23** Without a **guide**, without **intentionality**, your family is likely to **drift**. So is your *kids faith*.
- J. How do we pass on our **deepest beliefs & values** to our children? How do we **bridge** this gap between our generations? How do we add to our parenting, **disciplining** as well? How do we help to **develop** a **robust and long-term faith** in our kids of all ages? How do we **develop** in our children of all ages, **a sticky faith**?
1. **Slide24a-i** By being intentional and purposeful about parenting, rather than **as things come up** or just getting through the day.
  2. **By having a big picture parenting**.... Have a goal. **What kind of child do I want to raise?** (loves God with whole heart, has integrity, loves people, etc...) and

then make your decisions based on that goal, and create opportunities for them to learn those things.

3. **By being an example of living a life of true faith:** live out the things above and have them be part. Make sure your faith isn't defined by only *going to church on Sundays*. Cultivate your own faith first, and model that. **YOU love Jesus.**
4. **By creating warmth in your home,** create space for opportunities to **hear** them, **listen** to them, and let them **see** your faith lived out.
5. **By listening.** *Listen, listen, listen, listen.*
6. **By encourage questions about faith** allow space for conversation w/ judgement
7. **By finding their love language** and ways they **need** to be loved, **and do that.**
8. **By helping them find their identity in Christ not** in what they're doing/sports/etc
9. **By being their encourager, not their controller.**

K. **Slide25 Book recommendations:**

1. **Sticky Faith**, Dr. Kara Powell & Dr. Chap Clark
2. **Never Say No**, Raising Big Picture Kids, Mark and Jan Foreman.
  - a) Parents of *Jon & Tim Foreman* of Switchfoot.
  - b) *God is one big yes for us, and we want to pay it forward to our own kids.*

L. Don't target for *behavior*, target for *relationship*. Instead of a **negative scrutiny** of your children's conduct, how about to positively **enjoy** your kids.

1. I'm not talking about endorsing *permissiveness or leniency*. But can we move beyond reactionary noes **to** proactive **yeses**.

M. **Slide26a Parenting with a purpose.** Help your kids realize they're part of God's enormous caring design. **Help them find their true identities.** As they lose themselves in loving God and others, they'll learn *who they really are*.

1. **Slide26b** Don't make your goal to make your kids **model humans**, or yourselves **model parents**. Know the positive outcome will be **all because of God's grace**.

N. **Slide26c** It's not just about what our kids **do** but who they **are**, or will **become**.

1. **Slide26d** Our gospel is **not the gospel of sin management**. Dallas Willard
- O. **Slide26e** *We want to help our kids break out of a flat self-focus to discover the three-dimensional face of God, receiving his dynamic love and giving it away.* Mark Foreman
- P. We are all being shaped by a common spiritual genetic code, *God's own likeness*.
- Q. *We did not want our kids cloistered in a religious tower, trying to behave until heaven. We believed our children could play an important part in God's redemptive plan to bring heaven to earth.* (parents of Jon & Tim Foreman of Switchfoot)
- R. Every child is wired to be great at a few things, **but** not everything. **And how are we measuring the greatness?** It usually boils down to a few ingredients: **physical appearance**, **material possessions**, **Athletic ability**, **intelligence**, or **popularity**.
- S. **Slide27a** Is your basic goals for your children **safety, health, happiness, success**? If so, you're selling them short.
  1. 1 basic goal of our mine & Kelly's parenting was to introduce our children, at a young age, to missionaries & the mission field (we invested in them going w/us when they could). **So they would know, understand & have a heart for... missionaries & God's mission field.** [Ty & Mical didn't go to Burma to be **safe**, or for their **health**, & they prob won't know this side of heaven how **successful** for the kingdom they were]
    - a) **Slide27b** So what got communicated to them was **caring for others**. Which of course didn't just come through us as **parents**, **but** from their conversations w/our **church leadership**, our **church friends**, their other **life experiences & mission trips** at University, hearing from **diff missionaries** coming through, etc.
    - b) **So is caring for others high on your list personally & in communicating it to your children? Low on the list? Not on the list?**
  2. **Slide27c** Have you over asked, what am I keeping my kids **safe** for? **Healthy** for? **Happy** for? **Successful** for?
    - a) **Slide28** The purpose of life is **not** to be happy. It is to be **useful**, to be **honorable**, to be **compassionate**, to have it **make some difference** that you have lived & lived well. ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

- T. Slide29 Interesting what was *important to God* for Abraham to “pass on” to his children...Gen.18:19 NIV *For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to **keep** the way of the Lord *by doing what is **right** and **just**.**
1. Oh, that your kids would *keep **God’s way** & **do rightly** & **stand for justice**.*

U. Communion:

1. Bread -
2. Cup -