

COMBATING A CORRUPT CULTURE

Teen Parent Meeting 3/02

Spiritual warfare is holy ground. It's not fun. It's hard. Most parents are too tired, busy and distracted to think of it. We are fighting for their future.

1 Peter 5:1-11

1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:

2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.

4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

*8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a **roaring lion**, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:*

9 Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

10 But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.

11 To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Introduction:

We live in a corrupt culture. We live in a day when anything and everything is accessible to our kids, and many of them will have experienced anything and everything prior to our getting to them.

Romans 12:1-2, 1 John 2:15, Colossians 3:1-2, James 4:4

Set Guard over Your Heart

Subject yourself to godly influences – v.5 music, entertainment, friendships, etc.
Seek the filling of the Holy Spirit – Ephesians 5

Submit to God's guidance in your life – v.6-7

Own Your Responsibility as a Godly Leader

Oversee the spiritual welfare of those you influence v.2-3

Obey every leading of the Holy Spirit v.3

Opt for godly influences in your home v.10

Beware of Satan's Subtlety

Be dependent upon God's wisdom – v.7

Be sober – calm, collected, circumspect (not fearful, panicked) v.8

Be vigilant – strict attention (lest by neglect we be overtaken!) v.8

Engage in Spiritual Battle

Expect spiritual opposition – personally, individually, group v.8

Enter prayerfully with scripture – v. 9

Exert godly influence on purpose – ask questions, know of problems, guess... v.3

Respond from a Heart of Love - 2 Tim. 4:2

Reprove/Rebuke – charge sharply and correct (exert the energy)

Renew Courage – encourage and love (builds up, not condemn)

– The goal is restoration not condemnation! (Romans 8)

Replace Influences – friends, music, etc. (Remove and Replace)

BIG THREE INFLUENCES – Music, Media, Mentors

Conclusion:

SOBER... beware, be serious, be involved in the spiritual welfare of others...
commitment to Christ!
