

WILD AND READY:

25 Things Every Boy Should
Know Before Manhood



Be wild in purpose, ready in righteousness.

A WORD TO DADS

Let's be honest, some of us have spent hours researching the perfect investments; stocks, real estate or even vintage cars. But the greatest return on investment is not in your portfolio, it's in people, especially your kids.

You're not just raising boys. You're raising future men who will be leaders, protectors, disciple-makers, and image-bearers of Christ. That's a calling worth everything you've got.

The apostle Paul understood this when he wrote to Timothy. You don't just hear the voice of a theologian, you hear the heart of a father. His words are full of grace and godly affection. The entire letter of 2 Timothy feels like a passionate father coaching his son to win in what really matters.

And here's how Paul laid it out:

Stir Up

"Fan into flame the gift of God" – 2 Timothy 1:6

Don't let the fire fade. Stoke it. Stir it. Remind your son that God has gifted him, and that gift needs to be used for God's glory.

Stand Up

"Be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus." – 2 Timothy 2:1

Grace isn't just what you were saved by, it's what strengthens you. Teach him to stand when others sit down, and to walk upright when the world bends low in the uncommon strength that only Christ provides.

Stay Up

"Continue in what you have learned and firmly believe" – 2 Timothy 3:14

When the world shakes, stay rooted. Don't drift. Keep your feet in the Word and teach your son to continually do the same.

Speak Up

"Preach the Word; be ready in season and out of season" – 2 Timothy 4:2

Encourage him to speak life, lead boldly, and never be ashamed of Jesus or His Gospel.

We need boys who are wild with purpose and ready with wisdom. That's what this guide is all about, 25 moments to share with your son. Not all at once and not perfectly, but prayerfully, purposefully and progressively.

Each entry is built for discipleship:

- A biblical truth to anchor him
- A Scripture to memorize
- A hands-on activity to enjoy
- A connection point to our church
- A way to personalize it for your family

You don't have to be a Bible scholar or a super dad. You just must show up one lesson at a time, one conversation, one memory at a time.

Let's raise sons who love Jesus deeply, serve others gladly, and stand firm in a world that's constantly shifting.

I'm cheering you on, and more importantly, so is our Lord. In Jesus,

PASTOR SCOTT

SECTION 1: SPIRITUAL FOUNDATIONS

1. Walk with God Daily

- Principle: A daily walk with God develops consistent character.
- Verse: Micah 6:8
- Activity: Let him lead a family devotion.
- Church Tie-In: Use Hibernia's Sunday morning worship guide
- Customize it: Start with a Psalm and one question. Keep it simple, but steady.

2. Know the Ten Commandments by Heart

- Principle: God's law is the foundation for righteousness.
- Verse: Exodus 20:1-17
- Activity: Apply each to real life.
- Church Tie-In: Learn through children's/student ministry.
- Customize it: Turn it into a game or challenge at the dinner table.

3. Share the Gospel Confidently

- Principle: Evangelism fulfills the Great Commission.
- Verse: Romans 1:16
- Activity: Practice gospel sharing.
- Church Tie-In: Participate in outreach events.
- Customize it: Role-play gospel conversations.

4. Pray

- Principle: Prayer is power through dependence.
- Verse: 1 Thessalonians 5:17
- Activity: Let him lead prayer at home or group.
- Church Tie-In: Encourage him to lead during BSG prayer times.
- Customize it: Keep a prayer journal together and share answered prayers.

5. Give Faithfully

- Principle: Giving shows trust and stewardship.
- Verse: Proverbs 3:9
- Activity: Set a giving plan.
- Church Tie-In: Support the Beyond initiative.
- Customize it: Let them earn, save, spend, and give with purpose.

6. Speak Truth in Love

- Principle: Truth without love harms; love without truth deceives.
- Verse: Ephesians 4:15
- Activity: Role-play kind disagreement.
- Church Tie-In: Join small group discussions.
- Customize it: Use real sibling conflicts as training moments.

7. Love Deeply and Sacrificially

- Principle: Love gives without return.
- Verse: John 15:13
- Activity: Write a note or serve someone.
- Church Tie-In: Serve with deacons to minister to shut-ins or widows.
- Customize it: Let him choose how to show love each week.

8. Protect and Serve Your Church

- Principle: We're stewards of the church body.
- Verse: Galatians 6:10
- Activity: Serve on a team (tech, setup, hospitality).
- Church Tie-In: Volunteer together as a family.
- Customize it: Let him help you prep for Sunday morning.

9. Learn to be confident & kind.

- Principle: Radical kindness reflects Christ.
- Verse: Luke 6:27
- Activity: Practice a strong handshake, looking each other in the eye and smiling of course.
- Church Tie-In: Be a greeter at church in their respective ministries, BSG and at Sunday Morning Worship.
- Customize it: Talk through what it means to be welcoming and how they would greet someone who's nervous or new.

10. You Become Like the Company You Keep

- Principle: Your friends shape your future.
- Verse: Proverbs 13:20
- Activity: Identify godly friendships.
- Church Tie-In: Engage in student ministry & BSGs.
- Customize it: Teach how to identify a godly friend.

Discipleship Practice – 12 / 3 / 1:

- 12: A group to grow with (Bible Study Group)
- 3: A few brothers to walk with
- 1: One close friend to pray with in confidence

SECTION 2: PRACTICAL MANHOOD

11. Show Up on Time

- Principle: Punctuality shows respect.
- Verse: Matthew 5:37
- Activity: Manage their own schedule.
- Church Tie-In: Commit to being punctual to BSG.
- Customize it: Set a reward for on-time streaks.

12. Do Your Work with Excellence

- Principle: Excellence honors God.
- Verse: Colossians 3:23
- Activity: Finish a project with excellence.
- Church Tie-In: Help lead a service project.
- Customize it: Let him choose a task and finish strong.

13. Work Is a Calling, Not a Curse

- Principle: Work done for God is meaningful.
- Verse: Ecclesiastes 9:10
- Activity: Serve your neighbor.
- Church Tie-In: Engage in mission projects.
- Customize it: Share the ways your job is a ministry.

14. Use Tools Properly and Safely

- Principle: Skill is a form of wisdom.
- Verse: Proverbs 24:3

- Activity: Build something with Dad.
- Church Tie-In: Help with facility tasks.
- Customize it: Teach one new tool per month.

15. Make Your Bed

- Principle: Do first things first. Small things done well lead to big things done right.
- Verse: Luke 16:10a
- Activity: 90-second challenge, Dad vs. Son making a bed.
- Church Tie-In: Get to church early and look for places to help prepare for services.
- Customize it: Organize your room each day for 10 minutes for six days straight.

16. Write and Give a Speech

- Principle: Bold words shape truth.
- Verse: 1 Peter 3:15
- Activity: Share your testimony.
- Church Tie-In: Lead youth devotion or announcement.
- Customize it: Record and review a speech together.

17. Care for Yourself

- Principle: Steward your body and appearance.
- Verse: 1 Cor. 6:19, 1 Peter 5:5
- Activity: Learn to shave, tie a tie, and groom with confidence.
- Church Tie-In: Dress for church with pride and purpose.
- Customize it: Prepare clothes on Saturday(s) for the Lord's Day.

18. Cook One Thing Really Well

- Principle: Serving blesses others.
- Verse: Galatians 5:13
- Activity: Cook for the family or a small group.
- Church Tie-In: Bring something to a church meal.
- Customize it: Let him pick his signature dish.

19. Serve Others (Even with Coffee!)

- Principle: True greatness is seen in quiet service.
- Verse: Matthew 23:11
- Activity: Make coffee, fix a plate, carry gear, greet guests.

- Church Tie-In: Join the hospitality team.
- Customize it: Give him one regular Sunday ministry.

20. Wash a Car

- Principle: Steward the small.
- Verse: Luke 16:10
- Activity: Wash a neighbor's car.
- Church Tie-In: Serve widows or elderly members.
- Customize it: Pair this with a visit or prayer moment.

21. Own Your Mistakes. No Excuses.

- Principle: Confession brings growth.
- Verse: James 5:16
- Activity: Make things right with someone.
- Church Tie-In: Share transparently and appropriately with each other.
- Customize it: Ask what could be done differently next time.

22. Balance a Budget and Save Money

- Principle: Planning enables generosity.
- Verse: Proverbs 21:20
- Activity: Create a real budget.
- Church Tie-In: Attend a stewardship class.
- Customize it: Teach them to save some, spend some and give some.

23. Weapon Safety

- Principle: Strength protects the weak.
- Verse: Psalm 82:4
- Activity: Learn safe handling and reporting.
- Customize it: Use training and wise restraint scenarios.

24. Do What Is Hard

- Principle: Growth comes through difficulty.
- Verse: Hebrews 12:7
- Activity: Train for something hard.
- Church Tie-In: Plan outreach to your school or neighborhood.
- Customize it: Affirm progress more than results.

25. Study and Apply the Bible Correctly

- Principle: God's Word changes lives.
- Verse: 2 Timothy 2:15
- Activity: Teach a devotional.
- Church Tie-In: Join a Bible Study Group. Attend Bible Study Trainings.
- Customize it: Pick a book and read it together over breakfast.

These final spots are left intentionally blank for you to fill in with lessons that matter most to your family. Think of virtues, values, or skills you want to uniquely pass down.

Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- Respect the Elderly: Show honor with words, actions, and attention.
- Give Up Your Seat: Especially for ladies, the elderly, or anyone in need, chivalry isn't dead.
- Honor the Flag: Understand what it stands for. Show respect during the anthem and pledge.
- Learn to Stand Alone: It's okay to be the only one doing right. Courage often walks solo (2 Timothy 2:1)
- Serve without Credit: Real strength doesn't need applause (Col. 3:22, Matt. 6:4 & 6).

Now it's your turn:

26. _____

27. _____

28. _____

29. _____

30. _____

These moments you write in might just be the ones your son remembers the most.



THE WILD ROAD AHEAD

Dads, we are here for you. God has called you to lead your sons and daughters. These aren't just activities, they're invitations to raise dangerous boys: boys who are wild with God's Purposes and ready with God's Wisdom.

**Start small.
Pick one.
Begin today.**

This booklet is a tool, but you're not doing this alone. We're walking with you. We're praying for you. You are not alone. You are called. And by God's grace, you are equipped.

**Let's walk the wild road
ahead together.**

DISCIPLESHIP PRACTICE 12/3/1

Our prayer is that every boy and man at Hibernia will live out this simple but powerful pattern of discipleship:

- 12 – A Bible Study Group to grow with. This is your community, the godly group you learn from and serve alongside.
- 3 – A few brothers to walk with. These are guys you meet with regularly for accountability, encouragement, and spiritual growth.
- 1 – One close friend to pray with in confidence. This is the brother who knows you deeply, sharpens you in the Lord, and walks with you through everything.

Discipleship happens in a relationship. Surround yourself with godly people and become one others can count on.

APPENDIX:

For Daughters

- Teach her how a godly man treats women.
 - Let her see you love and lead her mom.
 - Invite her into meaningful conversation.
 - Take her on one-on-one dates.
 - Praise her character over her appearance.
- Help her do hard things: rock climb, write, speak up.

*Every daughter needs to know her Father in heaven is trustworthy—
your life is the preview.*

Resources for Family Worship

- **Family Worship** – Donald Whitney (short, rich, practical)
- **The Bible** – Read Psalms, Proverbs, or the Gospels aloud.
- **The Biggest Story Verse Cards** – Fun for little kids, engaging for bedtime.
- **Seek and Find Bible Books** – Interactive books for preschoolers.
- **The Donut Date Journal** – Questions for teen heart-connection.
- **Family Worship Bible Guide** – Devotional prompts by passage.
- **A Practical Guide to Family Worship** – Based on the life of Richard Baxter.

*“Don’t overthink it—just open the Word, point them
to Jesus, and keep showing up.”*

Consistency matters more than polish.

Five Stones... Fear Not

By Robert Goodner

We come to the full realization of faith when we firmly take hold of the fact that God can—and will—do all that He has promised. Once we grasp that truth, we can navigate life with clarity and courage, trusting His leading through every moment. As Adrian Rogers said, “Salvation is free, but discipleship costs.”

My testimony is simple but hard-earned: “Fear not.” That command appears 366 times in Scripture—one for every day, including leap year. I’ve had to cling to that command through war, personal loss, cancer, betrayal, injury, and uncertainty. I’ve buried people I loved. I’ve been misunderstood and misrepresented. I’ve faced down the barrel of fear—and I’ve seen God show up again and again.

What I’ve learned is this: preparation is not paranoia. Preparation is biblical. God hasn’t given us a spirit of fear but of power, love, and sound judgment (2 Timothy 1:7). We prepare mentally, spiritually, emotionally, and physically—not to escape life’s trials, but to walk through them with purpose. We get back up. We stand our ground. And we don’t let the enemy write our story.

You can survive anything when you’re anchored in the Lord. Your scars don’t define your defeat—they display your survival. Wear them like armor. Let them remind you that the same God who delivered David from Goliath, who calmed the sea, who raised Jesus from the grave—is with you in the valley.

My challenge to you, dad to dad, man to man: raise warriors, not worriers. Raise sons who can face fire without flinching. Raise daughters who carry dignity like a sword. And model that strength by walking in humility and fearless dependence on God.

We all have battles. Let’s fight them the right way—with five smooth stones and a heart full of courage.

BIO: Robert Goodner

Robert Goodner is a combat-decorated veteran with service in the United States Marine Corps and Army Reserve. He retired after 27 years with the Alabama State Troopers, serving in leadership roles including Special Operations Commander, Highway Patrol Division Chief, and Assistant Director.

In the military, Robert served as a platoon leader, company commander, and aide-de-camp to the Adjutant General of the Alabama National Guard. He is an ordained deacon and a passionate teacher of biblical manhood, self-discipline, and courage under pressure.

Robert and his wife Michelle are devoted members of Hibernia Baptist Church. Together, they have two daughters, Taylor and Gloria. Robert currently leads the Clay County Outdoor Adventure Park, where he mentors young people, supports church ministries, and challenges men to rise to God's calling with grit, grace, and gospel-centered fearlessness.

Three Life Lessons:

By Grant Johnson

I grew up in a Christian home and was saved at an early age. My family has been attending Hibernia Baptist Church since 2006. In 2024, I graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point with a degree in civil engineering and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. My military training consists of the Infantry Basic Officer Leader Course, Ranger School, and Air Assault School. In June of 2024, I married my beautiful wife, Sarah Anne, and now we have a newborn son named Gilbert.

Below are three lessons that I learned as a young man from my dad, which were reinforced during my experiences at West Point and Ranger School and have helped develop me into a better man of God.

1. Integrity

Be honest; always tell the truth, even when it is difficult. Be genuine and transparent; have pure intentions and let others see that. Be consistent; maintain your composure at all times and hold yourself to the standard that you expect of others. Be accountable; seek honest feedback, take ownership of mistakes, and be willing to change. Be humble; be self-aware of your strengths and weaknesses, do not compare yourself to others, and be confident in who God made you to be. Be a man of integrity.

2. Influence

Be selective in choosing your sources of influence. Read the Bible daily; above all others, the Bible should be the highest authority in your life, so read it and know it. Seek Godly mentorship; recognize the Godly men that are in your specific walk of life (sport, job, career, hobby, etc.) and imitate them as they imitate Christ. Surround yourself with Godly friends; find like-minded brothers and keep each other accountable - sin cannot thrive in the light. With that said, it is not at all wrong to have non-Christian mentors and friends, in fact it is good and necessary for Gospel sharing. But stay vigilant, remain steadfast in the Bible, and constantly compare all sources of influence to the Truth.

3. Contentment

Do hard things and don't complain; I have been in situations where I was cold, wet, tired, and hungry; needless to say, I was tempted to complain, or even quit. But complaining simply makes things worse. In contrast, be comfortable with being uncomfortable; a man who accepts discomfort stands out amongst his peers. Instead of wishing for better, accept the situation as is and press on. Learn to endure; when a situation seems unbearable, don't quit just because it is difficult. Remain calm and remember that nothing lasts forever. The Lord has a purpose for you in everything, be patient as he fulfills it. Be a hard worker; accept whatever task God assigns to you, big or small, and find joy in it. If you are given a task that you do not want, still work hard. Don't dream of having a different job, own the one you are given and be the best. Be content in all things.

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