

# QUESTIONS FOR PARENTS

*by Kenneth Maresco*

These questions are intended to serve parents of teenagers to help them cultivate influence and relationship, as they help their teens move toward spiritual maturity. They are intended to be used in the context of regular conversations, not all in one sitting.

## **Personal Encouragement**

Let me share with you ways that I am encouraged about your progress... (be as specific as possible)

## **Own Their Faith**

What things have been repeatedly on your mind during the past week or two? What have you been thinking about? What things specifically?

What has been the main focus of your quiet times recently? What are you reading? What are you praying about? Are you benefiting from your devotional times or are you doing them primarily out of obligation?

How do you feel about your relationship with God right now? Are you feeling passion for him and his kingdom? Is there anything competing for your affections right now that would hinder you from loving God with all your heart?

Is there any thought on your mind that you know is wrong but you are having a hard time with?

What sins are you struggling with and how are you working on them? What have you done to work on your sin area? Do you have you a plan that involves prayer and the word? Would you please share that with me so I can help you?

How are you being diligent in managing your personal life? Devotional times, chores in the home, schoolwork, budget?

## **Parents Before Peers**

Do you have any observations for me as a dad/mom?

Is there anything I have said or done that would cause you to struggle or you would want to bring to my attention?

Do you feel that mom or I have treated you unfairly in any situation or circumstance that you would want to bring to my attention right now?

Have you had any conversation with friends regarding issues or expressing thoughts, which you know I would be concerned about or want to know about?

Have you engaged in any activities which you know your mom and I would not approve of that you have not informed me about?

Are there any unresolved relational issues among you and this family or your friends?

Are there any girls/boys that you are having a hard time not thinking about? What are you thinking about them? Do you have any questions about relationships with guys or girls?

### **Be Distinct From the World**

What music are you enjoying right now? Why are you enjoying it? Would you share with me the music you are most excited about?

Are there any bands, that you are listening to, that are not distinctly Christian? Who are they and can you let me see their lyrics, and/or listen to their music?

Have you visited any websites with immodest images, or viewed any inappropriate images, or read any inappropriate material since we last met?

Have you been in any context where people have been engaging in activities that the Bible would not approve of? When was that, and what was going on?

Are you aware of any sins among your friends, that you have not been faithful to confront them in, or made sure they shared those issues with their parents (Galatians 6:1-3)?

---

### **RECOMMENDED RESOURCE:**

**Facebook - Blessing or Curse? Teens and Technology** (message from March 1, 2008)

Today everything has changed technologically, but nothing has changed about the human heart and our need for a Savior.

<http://www.covlife.org> (go to "resources", then "10:31 meeting" for the link to the above)