

Drivers Ed For Parents

Junk In The Garage

- **What is junk?**
 - It's anything that is getting in your way and keeping you from feeling Comfortable _____ with what you see in your garage.
 - You're not comfortable because the Holy Spirit in you is telling you it's time to get rid of some stuff.
 - Do you have so much clutter/junk that it's keeping your vehicle from wanting most from your garage? A safe protective environment where they can be worked on with the proper tools.

- **REVEAL and REMOVE**
- Reveal _____ the junk and Remove _____ it-

1 John 1:9- "If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us of our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Matt. 5:23-24- "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

- Manage the junk
 - **What do you throw away and what do you keep?**

Three Pieces of Junk to Throw Away

- **#1-Worry-**

It's natural but not right because it's a joy stealer. It keeps us from enjoying the best moments of a teen's life

Read Matt. 6:25-34. Notice the 3 things Jesus tells us not to worry about.

(What to drink). What do we thirst after? What does it take to quench your thirst in life?

(What to eat) What do we hunger after? What sustains you and makes you content in your circumstances?

(What to wear) What do we covet? What do you have to have to be comfortable in life?

- #2-Fear-
 - Fear grips a person so they can't see clearly what needs to be done.
 - One major area of fear that parents have is the fear to be _____ and _____.
 - Example of Jesus-
 - John 11:35- "Jesus wept"
- #3-Selfishness or Self-Centeredness-
 - Teens attitude toward what they think parents think-
 - My way or the highway" "This is my castle and you're just renting" "I own you and don't you forget it" "As long as you live under my roof you will do as I say"
 - Personal preferences verses proper values
 - Example: A teens messy room
 - Trying to teach self-discipline and self-respect
 - What's wrong with making them clean their room to teach that?
 - Nothing but remember the two "I's" of the teen
 - Identity and Independence
 - Can it be learned in some other environment?

Three Pieces to Restore and Keep

Galatians 5:22-23 says, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, **joy**, **peace**, **patience**, goodness, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control against such there is no such law."

#1-Joy:

Can rob parents and teens from communicating properly

It can't be manufactured. It must be received

Romans 14:17 says, "For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit."

Real joy is something that comes from a right relationship with God.

Joy is often fleeting for a teen, why?

- **The tangent can get in the way of the in-tangent**
- To a teen, happiness is found in material things and relationships you can touch. As stated earlier in our course teens feel first before they think first. Therefore, they place a great deal of their happiness on how they feel
- Matthew 6:20-21 it says, *"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*
- **-Joyful parents have joyful teens**
 - Why would a teen want to become an adult if all they see is a stressed out unhappy adult?
 - Philippians 4:4 say, *"Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice."* It doesn't say rejoice (be joyful) only when times are good. It says to rejoice when it's good and rejoice when it's bad.
- Jesus said, *"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."*
- **#2-Peace:**
 - What kind of peace does the world give?
 - *The world offers what I call "The Coca-Cola" fake peace*
 - The word peace in the original Greek language is εἰρήνη stated eiréné,(i-ray'-nay). It means peace of mind, wholeness, completeness, when all parts are joined together, undisturbed
 - *With that in mind, what do you think Jesus is referring to in the above passage?*
 - Put into context-Jesus is telling them soon He will be suffering
 - In other words, peace is not dependent on lack of conflict.
 - Read Phil. 4:6-7-
 - This kind of peace can't be manufactured
 - It takes constant communication with God to receive this peace.
- **#3-Patience:**
 - *Why is having patience so hard?*
 - *How can our teens be so smart one minute and so dumb the next?*
 - *It actually can be attributed to their brain?*

- *Research: (see section in Drivers Ed Manual sent to you)+*
 - *Brain development-limited cognitive control*
 - *Testosterone and estrogen*
- The Bible says this about patience in Psalms and Proverbs:
- *“Be still and wait patiently on Him”. Ps. 37:7. “I wait patiently on the Lord”, Ps. 40:1.*
- **“Dad, I’ve got to have it now. The new iPhone 7 has just come out and ALL my friends have one. I can’t be the only one who doesn’t have one. I bet you just love me being outcast in my school!”** (How many teens you know that when the latest and greatest hits the stores they don’t want it?)
- *“A patient man has great understanding, but a quick-tempered man displays folly.” Prov. 14:29.*
- **“I hate you mom, you’re just mean. I don’t understand why you won’t let me go out with Bobby? He is too a really nice boy. Why else would he be doing community service every weekend for the rest of the year?”** (Sometimes teens just don’t quite have it all upstairs)
- *“A hot-tempered man stirs up dissension, but a patient man calms a quarrel.” Prov. 15:18.*
- **“Now come on mom and dad let’s not get so upset about my bad grades. I’m sure there is a logical explanation why I’ve failed two courses. Let’s calm down and look at all the facts so we don’t make an irrational decision. Is this a good time for us to discuss this or do I need to go to my room so you guys can calm down before we continue our conversation?”** (Most teens speak this way during conflict don’t they?)
- **Proverbs 19:11** says, *“A man’s wisdom gives him patience; it is to his glory to overlook an offense.”*
- **“You know mom, I’ve decided that even though Jennifer stabbed me in the back at school today and took my boyfriend away, I’m not going to let it bother me. After all, there are lots more fish in the sea as they say. I also better get on the phone and talk to all my buds so they don’t start spreading gossip about Jennifer.”** (Know a lot of teens like this?)
 - Summary: Three things we definitely want to throw out and three things we want to keep within our garage.
 - Throw out worry, fear, and selfishness. Keep Joy, peace and patience.
 - Joy, peace, and patience are great tools and are not developed strictly from personal effort. Instead, they are a gift from God that must be pursued passionately through His Spirit.
 - As a parent of a teen I encourage you to ask daily for these three things in your life. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you with His joy, His peace, and His patience. Recognize as you grow in your walk that He will anoint you with these beautiful character qualities so that you will bear fruit, fruit that will last and impact your teen forever.