

# Breaking the Law! (Teen Rebellion)

Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living."

*Conflict is the first step of rebellion*

- 'Father, give me my share of the estate.'
  - "I want my independence NOW".

*How you respond to conflict with your teen can shape their character for the long term.*

*Conflict is a precursor to change*

## Definition of Teen Rebellion

- **What do I mean by rebellion?** Rebellion in our discussion will mean when a teen willfully determines to say things, perhaps do things, or believe things that are contrary to the things of God and rebel against those who are placed in authority in their lives.
- Proverbs 17:11 says, "*An evil man seeks only rebellion, and a cruel messenger will be sent against him.*"
- Once a teen makes rebellion a pattern in their life they will display certain evil characteristics.
- **Immaturity that causes bad choices is NOT rebellion.**
- Merriam-Webster Dictionary the definition of rebellion is "opposition to one in authority or dominance", or "refusal to obey rules or accept normal standards of behavior, dress, etc..."

**When I am referring to rebellion, I am not talking about those far and few situations when your teen pushes your buttons and comes home late from a party. That disobedience is due to immaturity**

- A teen who displays signs of consistent rebellion is well aware of the consequences of their choices, and it does not bother them when they break the rules. It's almost like they refuse to pay the ticket for their offense and when a warrant is issued for their arrest they could care less. We will delve into this form of a rebellious nature later

## What's Gods' attitude about rebellion?

- **I Sam. 15: 22-23 But Samuel replied: "Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams. For rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, he has rejected you as king."**

*The word divination refers to demon worship or demonism*

- *Arrogance=insubordination (Hebrew)*
- When arrogance is a prevailing character flaw of your teen and a stubborn and rebellious nature is CONSISTENTLY present, God says this is a serious matter.
- When a teen decides to use intimidating methods to control the home and get their way no matter who gets hurt, that's rebellion

**How do you determine if it's True Rebellion or rebellious immaturity?**

- #1-The level of their maturity? It's the opposite of what you may think.
- #2-How consistent are they in their rebellious nature?
- #3- How prideful and arrogant are they?

**If two out of three exists then you probably have a rebel developing in your home.**

## **Speeding**

- Metaphorically, a speeding violation relates to their desire to be independent before they are mature enough to handle all their choices. In other words, they want to be an adult quickly and will try and speed the process up.

This immaturity leads them to take risk by breaking rules. Risk is adventurous and exciting and it's a teen's way of taking a chance for their independence.

**Galatians 6:7 that says, "Don't be deceived, God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows."**

**How does a teen mock God?**

- By speeding through a "parent zone" without thinking about the consequences
- Example: Curfew
- Ephesians 6:1, "*Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.*"
- *Key: Teen must be "in the Lord". What does that mean?*
- *Danger: Lack of submissive spirit "consistently" goes from immaturity to rebellion*
- *Parent's responsibility?*
- Ephesians 6:4, "*Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.*"