

# PASSING THE TORCH

*Proverbs 21:30-31*

## **A DEVASTATING MYTH/A FRUSTRATING TRUTH**

*Two Sides of the Coin*

THE MYTH: A godly HOME guarantees godly KIDS.  
(Proverbs 22:6, Ezekiel 18:20)

THE TRUTH: Parents have great INFLUENCE - but not ultimate CONTROL. (Genesis 3, Proverbs 21:30-31)

## **PREPARE FOR BATTLE**

*5 Ways to Increase Your Odds of Success*

- ❶ *Fight for a strong MARRIAGE.*  
(Ephesians 5:22-6:4, Malachi 2:13-16)
- ❷ *Model respect for AUTHORITY.*  
(Romans 13:1-7, Proverbs 24:21-22, Ephesians 6:1-3)
- ❸ *Put CHARACTER over PERFORMANCE.*  
(1 Samuel 16:7, Matthew 6:33)
- ❹ *Take a genuine INTEREST in their WORLD.*  
(Philippians 2:3-5, John 1:14)
- ❺ *Pick your BATTLES.*  
(Colossians 3:21, Romans 14:1-15)

Current Series: #FamilySOS

Passing the Torch\_Part-6 by Pastor Jesse Elizondo (5/10/15).

# REALife Application

**QUICK REVIEW** – Looking back over your sermon notes, was there a particular point or passage of Scripture that challenged, confused or caught your attention?

1. If you could go back in time and give your parents a piece of advice from this week's sermon what would it be?
2. Passing the Torch is an important part of a parent's job description. To do this well we need to remember that many things are better "caught" than "taught." In light of that, what would it look like for you to model each of the following passages in such a way that those watching would be inclined to follow your example?

Psalm 119:15-16  
Philippians 2:3-4

Matthew 5:13-16  
Colossians 3:13

Despite our greatest of intentions, we don't have ultimate control over how our kids respond to our direction. There are some things that can increase our influence and some things that can sabotage it. What are some specific actions and attitudes that make it more likely that those under our influence WON'T follow our advice? (List as many as you can think of.)

3. A strong marriage has a huge impact on kids. Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 and make a list of character qualities that communicate love. Then, if you're married, go back and rate how you are doing in regard to your spouse in each area on a scale of 1 to 10. Do the same in regard to your children or any other significant relationships.

Are there any areas you would like to improve your score on? Why? What can you do to improve in those areas?

4. This weekend we saw the importance and value of taking a genuine interest in the world of our kids regardless of their age. Part of doing that is simply identifying and affirming their unique interests, gifts, and abilities. What does Proverbs 3:27 and 15:30 say about this principle?

Take a moment and write down 2-3 abilities or positive character qualities of your children. If you are not a parent, think of a couple close friends.

How do you communicate what you wrote above to your children? Is it time to remind them how you specifically appreciate them?

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② Model respect for \_\_\_\_\_.  
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③ Put \_\_\_\_\_ over \_\_\_\_\_.  
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