

# Fathers' Studies: Father/Child Relationships

"...that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

LESSON 32 OF 52

## THE FACTS OF LIFE

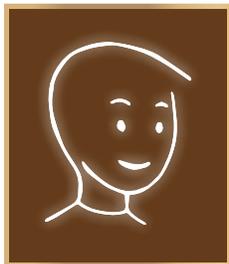
**LESSON AIM:** To learn ways that a father can teach his children about sexual things.

### KEY VERSE:

1. **PSALM 139:13-14** Your body was made by \_\_\_\_\_ . Everything God makes is \_\_\_\_\_ , including sexual parts.
2. **TITUS 1:15-16** To have a life that is pure (free from sin), your \_\_\_\_\_ must be pure.
3. **1 CORINTHIANS 6:19-20** A Christian's body is a house where \_\_\_\_\_ lives. Therefore it should be used to \_\_\_\_\_ .
4. **1 THESSALONIANS 4:3** God wants you to be holy and to keep away from \_\_\_\_\_ .
5. **GENESIS 39:6-10** As an unmarried young man, \_\_\_\_\_ did not give in to sexual temptations.

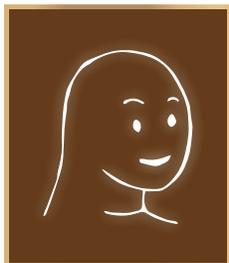
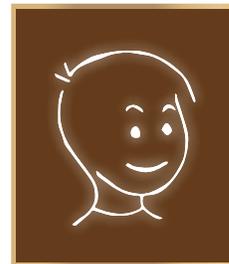
### PERSONAL NOTES:

## For You To Do



### By Yourself

Ask God to help you form a plan of action for teaching your children about their sexuality.



### With Your Wife

Discuss your plan with her and look for ways that she can help you with your teaching.

### With Your Children

Begin early, even before puberty, to teach your children about their sexuality. Work together as father and mother, to find good teaching materials and help your children know what to expect, and to feel comfortable about being a boy or a girl.

Children need and want guidance in this powerful part of their lives, their sexual development. This teaching is very important as they approach puberty, the time of life when their child's body changes to an adult body. But even before this age parents need to prepare the child with good attitudes and open conversation about sex. Children will get many wrong ideas about sex from literature, advertising, television, movies, and music. So, it is important that fathers teach their children the truth about these subjects:

- human reproduction and sexual changes at puberty
- God's rules about sexual conduct
- good ways to find and choose a life partner
- making up their minds not to sin sexually

**MAKE SEX AN OPEN SUBJECT OF CONVERSATION.** Do not treat it as something secret, shameful, or embarrassing. Answer children's questions honestly and simply. Use proper names for the sex organs. In your conversation, keep a respectful attitude toward sex. Avoid sexual jokes.

**DISCUSS GOD'S RULES ABOUT SEX.** Show your children how much the Bible has to say about it. Explain to them that God has made these rules because He does not want them to get hurt.

**HAVE SPECIAL TEACHING TIMES.** When the children enter puberty, talk with them about what is happening to their bodies. If a new baby is on the way, explain to the children exactly what is happening. Have a retreat with some other dads with children ages 10-15. Rent a campground and bring in a teacher if you want to. Plan some special times of talking with each child about the changes in his life.

**LET YOUR LOVE FOR YOUR WIFE SET A GOOD EXAMPLE.** Show tenderness and affection that the children can see. In this way they will get healthy ideas about man-woman relationships.

**PROVERBS 5, 6; ROMANS 6:12-13; EPHESIANS 5:3-5**

**I WILL PRAISE YOU, FOR THE GREATNESS OF THE WAY I WAS MADE BRINGS FEAR... (PSALM 139:14)**

### Children need to know:

- how their bodies work
- God's rules
- how to stay pure
- how to choose a life partner

**Sex should be a natural and normal thing to talk about.**

**Find out what God says about sex.**

**Take the lead—don't wait for questions.**

## WINDOW TO LIFE

Many fathers don't talk to their children about sex because they don't have enough information. Instead of a story for this lesson, we are giving a list of books that you may find helpful to use with your children.

*Straight Talk with Your Kids About Sex* by Josh and Dottie McDowell. For you to read before talking with your children. Available from [www.amazon.ca](http://www.amazon.ca)

*Youth Studies*, for teens, a course on preparation for marriage or singleness. NYM Ministries, Site 306 Box 1 RR 3, Dryden, Ontario P8N 3G2.

*Where Do Babies Come From?* by Ruth Hummel, for ages 6-8. Concordia Publishing House. Available through book stores.

*Preparing for Adolescence* by James Dobson, for ages 9-14. Focus on the Family, Canada: (1-800) 661-9800. [www.focusonthefamily.ca](http://www.focusonthefamily.ca).

