

SESSION 4

Raising Responsible Sons | Years 15-19

Psalm 127:4

Children born to a young man are like arrows in a warrior's hands.

A TALE OF TWO TREES

Jeremiah 17:5-8

⁵Thus says the LORD: “Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. ⁶He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. ⁷“Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. ⁸He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.” (ESV)

CHARACTERISTICS OF PARENTS WHO ARE OBSTACLES

They fear exposure

They love the approval of men

They are unreflective

MOVING FROM CONTROL TO INFLUENCE

DIGGING DEEPER CHANNELS

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What are my weaknesses as a man, and how are they limiting my ability to move my son towards this vision of manhood? What are the first steps for me?
2. Are you on a pathway toward influence in your son's life? Why or why not?
3. Is your wife on board with a healthy vision for masculinity? If not, where is she out of step? What do you need to do to help her partner with you and your son in this process?