

## ***Guide for Planning a Manhood/Womanhood Ceremony***

### **TOP 10 WAYS YOU CAN MAXIMIZE THE MOMENT:**

1. Discuss the ceremony with your 12th grader. Should it be private, public, formal, or casual? They can help choose the format, but they can't choose whether or not they will receive the Blessing of the ceremony.
2. Decide who to invite. Send them not only the details of the evening but give them an idea of what you expect them to share with your 12th grader at the ceremony. That will give them time to prepare.
3. Be ready for questions. Your teenager might see this as strange or awkward, which is actually pretty typical. It will be something that will be more easily understood when experienced.
4. Learn to be comfortable with questions and utilize the answer, "You'll have to just wait and see" quite a lot.
5. Prepare to give them a symbol. Decide what you will give them and what meaning you are going to attach to it. If you can, try to make this a surprise for your 12th grader. Surprises are typically pretty fun.
6. Write down what you plan to say. Not only will it calm your nerves to read it, but you can also give a written copy of it to your 12th grader for them to keep. For help in planning what to say, you can download "The Guide to Giving a Blessing."
7. Bless identity, not performance.
8. Be creative. Every ceremony is completely different because it comes from the heart and mind of the parents leading.
9. Pray. Give all of the guests an opportunity to pray over your teenager.
10. Scriptures of Blessing. Here are some Scripture references that you might want to read during the ceremony. (listed on the next page)

<i>Isaiah 49:25</i>	<i>Proverbs 4:18</i>	<i>Deuteronomy 6:7</i>
<i>Isaiah 44:3-4</i>	<i>Proverbs 4:22</i>	<i>Proverbs 1:8-9</i>
<i>Psalms 112:2</i>	<i>Psalms 119:11</i>	<i>Psalms 128:1-6</i>
<i>Psalms 127:3</i>	<i>Jeremiah 32:38-39</i>	<i>Hebrews 12:9-11</i>
<i>Isaiah 54:13</i>	<i>Zechariah 9:11</i>	<i>1 Peter 2:9</i>
<i>1 Corinthians 13:11</i>	<i>Psalms 91</i>	<i>Genesis 18:19</i>
<i>Proverbs 20:7</i>	<i>Psalms 144:12</i>	<i>Jeremiah 1:5</i>
<i>Numbers 6:24</i>	<i>Psalms 127:3-5</i>	<i>Psalms 127:1</i>
<i>Proverbs 27:11</i>	<i>Psalms 139:13-16</i>	<i>Proverbs 23:24</i>
<i>2 Timothy 2:22</i>	<i>Proverbs 22:6</i>	<i>Joshua 1:6-15</i>
<i>Proverbs 2:20</i>	<i>Ephesians 6:4</i>	<i>Romans 8:28</i>
<i>Proverbs 4:8</i>	<i>Jeremiah 29:11</i>	
<i>(good for womanhood ceremony)</i>		

Risk vulnerability. If the ceremony is cold or unfeeling, it won't work. This will be significant when you are willing to open your heart and hold a mirror up to the soul of your 12th grader so they can see their identity in your words.

***YOU CAN'T MESS THIS UP....Relax and enjoy the moment.***