

A man and a young person are sitting in the back of a truck, looking out at a sunset over a lake and mountains. The man is wearing a dark hoodie and a baseball cap, and the young person is wearing a grey hoodie. They are both looking out the back of the truck, which is parked on a road. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the scene. The mountains in the background are covered in snow and evergreen trees. The sky is filled with soft, orange and yellow clouds.

THE LEGACY TABLE

Know Their World

A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO CONNECTING
WITH YOUR MIDDLE OR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT

BECAUSE REAL CONNECTION
OPENS THE DOOR TO A LIFETIME
OF INFLUENCE.

*Moments shape culture.
Culture builds **legacy**.*

They're Growing Up in a Different World

Your student's world is bigger, faster and more complicated than it was a few years ago.

Friends matter differently. School brings new pressures. Social media, relationships and cultural influences are shaping the way they think, feel and make decisions often in ways we don't fully see.

*"I love my child deeply
but I'm not sure I really know
what's going on in their world anymore."*

You're not alone. Many parents find themselves asking more questions, giving more advice or trying harder to talk. But connection usually isn't built by extracting information. It's built by consistently communicating.

Your world matters to me.



*You can't
deeply disciple
a world you don't
take the time
to understand.*



Enter Their World Before You Try to Speak Into It.

Jesus regularly met people where they were. He asked questions, listened well, noticed people others overlooked, and sat at tables. He didn't start with correction. He started with connection.

As parents, we have the responsibility to teach, correct, lead and disciple our children. But influence grows in the soil of relationship.



KNOWING THEIR WORLD DOESN'T MEAN APPROVING OF EVERYTHING IN IT.



IT'S NOT ABOUT:

- Agreeing with every opinion
- Loving every interest
- Ignoring red flags
- Lowering your standards
- Trying to be their friend



IT IS ABOUT:

- Understanding your child well enough to shepherd them through it
- Being present in the places that shape their heart
- Learning what they're facing and asking
- Speaking truth with grace
- Building trust so they'll keep coming back

Three Ways to Enter Their World

You don't have to be an expert. You just have to be present. Here are three simple, practical ways to step into your child's world and build a stronger, more influential relationship.

01

BE CURIOUS

Move beyond surface level questions and take time to really understand what's going on in their heart, mind and world. Ask better questions and listen well.

02

SHARE THEIR INTERESTS

You don't have to love it as much as they do, but your willingness to engage goes a long way. Their interests are a doorway to deeper conversations and stronger connection.

03

CREATE SAFE SPACES

Influence grows when your child feels safe to be themselves. Create regular, low-pressure moments where they know they can be honest without fear of overreaction or immediate correction.



—
“People feel
influenced when
they feel *known*.”



The 30-Minute Challenge

You don't need hours of free time to make a difference in your child's life. Just 30 intentional minutes can open the door to deeper connection, greater understanding and a stronger, more influential relationship.

01

CONNECT

Spend time together, free from distractions. Let them lead the conversation. Listen, ask questions, and show genuine interest.

02

EXPLORE

Ask about what's on their mind. Their friends, interests, challenges and ideas. Be curious, not corrective.

03

PRAY

End your time by praying together. Keep it simple and real. Invite them to share, and pray for what matters to them.



—
“Small,
consistent
moments
create a
lifetime of
influence.”

What Happens Over Time

Thirty intentional minutes may seem small, but over time it creates big results. Consistent, quality moments help your child feel known, build trust, and shape their faith, character, and confidence for a lifetime.



01 Stronger Connection

Your child feels seen, heard, and valued. They are more likely to open up, share honestly, and come to you with what's on their heart.

02 Deeper Discipleship

Meaningful conversations create natural opportunities to point them to truth, pray together, and help them grow in their faith.

03 A Lifetime of Influence

The seeds you plant in these simple moments shape their character, decisions, and future. Today's intentional time builds tomorrow's strong, resilient adults.

"Today's intentional moments shape tomorrow's strong, resilient adults."



A Prayer for Parents

Parenting is a journey of purpose; and you don't have to do it alone. Take a moment to pray this over your family. Feel free to make it your own, add your child's name, and come back to it often.

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for the incredible gift of my child(ren). You have entrusted them to me, and I don't take that lightly. Give me wisdom, patience, and intentionality as I lead, love, and disciple them. Help me to see them the way You see them, with purpose, potential, and a unique calling.

Teach me to create space for meaningful moments, to listen well, to ask good questions, and to point them to You in both the big and small things.

Help me model a life that genuinely reflects Jesus — one marked by faith, humility, grace, and obedience. Give me the courage to lead by example and the wisdom to recognize the responsibility You have given me in shaping the next generation.

Lord, strengthen our family. Draw us closer to You and closer to one another. Let our home be a place where faith is more than something we talk about — it is more something we live. Help us build a legacy that points our children, and the generations after them, toward You.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

A FINAL THOUGHT

Small, consistent moments create a lifetime of influence. You don't have to be perfect — just present, intentional, and willing to invite God into the journey.

THE LEGACY TABLE

*Moments shape culture.
Culture builds legacy.*



Thank You

Thank you for taking the time to invest in your family.

We know life moves fast, but some of the most important moments are the simplest ones. A conversation, a little more listening, one more question, or a prayer. These moments shape hearts and build a legacy.

**You don't have to be perfect.
Just keep showing up.**

*Moments shape culture.
Culture builds **legacy**.*

The Legacy Table
