Guide for Planning a Manhood/Womanhood Ceremony

Top 10 ways you can maximize the moment

1. Discuss the ceremony with your 12th grader: 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. That will give them time to prepare.

3. Be ready for questions. Your teenager might see this as strange or awkward. This is actually pretty typical. It will be something that will be more easily understood when experienced. Learn to be comfortable with questions and utilize the answer, “You’ll have just wait and see.” quite a lot.

4. 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.

5. 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”

6. Bless Identity - Not Performance

7. Be Creative. Every ceremony is completely different because it comes from the heart and mind of the parents leading

8. Prayer. Give all of the guests an opportunity to pray over your teenager.
9. Scriptures of Blessing. Here are some scripture references that you might want to read during the ceremony.

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

10. Risk Vulnerability. If this 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.