
Reinforcing the Vision with Events and Programs

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Can a father teach his daughter lessons in biblical womanhood at a church-sponsored High Tea? Can a weekend with dad at a men's retreat help a son embrace biblical manhood? In this seminar, you will learn how to purposefully plan events that will reinforce the vision of raising the next generation to find their joy and satisfaction in Christ, love His word, and embrace biblical roles for men and women.

INTRODUCTION

Reinforcing the vision with events and programs means that both the event and the event planning process are working toward biblical discipleship goals for your families. This seminar is designed to help you know how to make not only the event Christ-centered, biblical, and reinforcing of your vision, but also employ principles of planning and coordination which are infused with the vision for your event.

Glorify God and increase joy in Him by planning events that:

- ...will display the glory of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior (1 Corinthians 10:31; 2 Corinthians 4:6).
- ...will cause His Word to dwell richly in His people by His Spirit (Colossians 3:16-17).
- ...deepen the relationship between Christ and His church and build relationships within the believer's household (Psalm 25:4, 14; Philippians 3:10).
- ...make disciples of Christ and work to bring them to maturity in Him (Colossians 1:28-29; Titus 2:3-8).

Wait on God and discover His will for the event - be devoted to prayer and His word. This will yield blessings from God for all involved:

- *God will reveal Himself* (Ephesians 4:19-21)
- *God will receive glory in all that you do* (2 Corinthians 4:7)
- *God will be with you and the Gospel will go forth* (John 15:4; Matthew 28:19-20)
- *He will establish your plans and give you grace* (Proverbs 16:3; Proverbs 19:21)
- *God will strengthen you for the task* (Psalm 27:14; Isaiah 40:31; Isaiah 41:10)
- *He will give you creative ways to make the event-planning process and the event itself work toward biblical discipleship goals for your families* (Colossians 1:28; Ephesians 4:12-16)

The Importance of God's Word and Prayer

God's Word is the foundation and anchor of your event and will bring clarity to God's particular purposes for it. Let the Word of God define the vision, themes, decisions - impacting all that you do for the event. (Jeremiah 15:16; 2 Timothy 3:16)
Often the Lord will impress on the hearts of parents, staff, volunteers certain Bible verses that will then lead to the planning of an event or the defining of an event already on the calendar.

Examples of this are:

- Genesis 1:27; 2:18-24 *Biblical Manhood and Womanhood Seminar*
- 1 Timothy 4:12 *Boyhood to manhood conference / Girlhood to womanhood conference*
- Song of Solomon 2:4, Psalm 23, Psalm 91:4 *Father-Daughter Tea*
- Matthew 5:8 *Purity Conference*
- Matthew 28:19-20 *Young Adult mission event*
- 2 Corinthians 5:20 *Baccalaureate Service & Reception for high school seniors*
- Romans 5:2, 20 *New Year's Eve fellowship & service*

The Importance of Brothers and Sisters in Christ

Every event requires volunteers who are called by God and believe in the vision for your events. If the event coordinator does everything for the event, it will not meet its goals. Recruit members of your local body and cast the vision of:

1. Disciple-making; preaching and teaching the Gospel.
2. Edifying the body of Christ through the discovery and exercise of spiritual gifts.
3. Learning servant-leadership.
4. Partnering young people with their parents.
5. Fostering **Titus 2** relationships in mentoring and spiritual parenting.

Seek unity of purpose for maximum effectiveness

Survey your church's ministry themes for the year, looking for ways to reinforce your event's vision with them.

- Sunday Worship / sermon focus
- Sunday School / Wednesday night
- Adult Ministries / Shepherd Groups
- Men's and Women's Bible Study Groups

Meet with the leadership of your church:

- to inform
- to pray together
- to counsel together for maximizing the effect of the event
- for their recommendations of individuals within the church family who are servant-leader "diamonds-in-the-rough"

Who are "servant-leader diamonds-in-the-rough"?

- Youth (5th-8th Grades) and Young Adults (9th-12th Grades) desiring to mature in Christ

Design your event to be a vehicle for discipleship and partnering with parents.

Purpose to raise up the next generation of servant-leaders, shepherds, teachers, and missionaries through your event.

In the process of praying, planning, organizing, and realization of your event, teach the next generation to embrace Christ, find their Spirit-giftedness, and become servants who will lead their generation (Philippians 2:4-10) as members of the body of Christ glorifying the Father through Spirit-filled ministry. (1 Cor. 12:12; 27, Eph. 2:10)

Select your potential servant-leaders

- After consultation with the young adult leadership of your church, prepare a leadership roster and contact your "diamonds in the rough"
- Send email invitation to potential young adult servant-leaders/captains.
- Secure date for first prayer and planning meeting.
- Meet for vision-casting, prayer, and selection of ministry.
 - Meet together and present the event and vision.
 - Break into prayer huddles.
 - Watch for those who take leadership in prayer.
 - After prayer huddles, sign-up for areas of ministry leadership.
 - Develop an application and interview process for those students who wish to serve.

Finalize Event Leadership Roster

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|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| ➤ Lead Coordinator | ➤ Touch Team Captain | ➤ Decorations Captain |
| ➤ Prayer Captain | ➤ Refreshments Captain | ➤ Hospitality Captain |
| ➤ Promotion Captain | ➤ Registration Captain | ➤ Facilities Captain |

If your pool of volunteers allows, select two Lead Coordinators:

- Lead Coordinator - Shepherd (spiritual encourager)
- Lead Coordinator - Administrator (willing to hold the team to tasks).

Co-Captains for each area of ministry also enhance the vision of discipleship as the captains learn to work and minister together in a Christ-exalting, God-glorifying way.

Captains select their teams

Give your captains guidance in selection of team members:

- *Are they followers of Jesus?*
- *What is their character?*
- *What gifts do you see in them?*
- *Have they served in any capacity within the church?*

Develop leadership 1 Timothy 4:12

- ❖ Provide each captain with leadership resources:
 - » “The Marks of a Spiritual Leader” by John Piper <http://www.desiringgod.org/resource-library/articles/the-marks-of-a-spiritual-leader>
 - » 4:12 Blog by Bethlehem young men <http://www.412conference.com/>
 - » The Rebelution Blog by Alex and Brett Harris <http://www.therebelution.com/>
 - » Loving the Lord Ministries Blog by Amy Vest <http://lovingthelord.org/>
- ❖ Prepare a schedule of meetings
- ❖ Task lists and timelines developed and communicated to team members
- ❖ Lines of accountability - (set the believers an example)
- ❖ Send thank you cards/show appreciation to all team members

Servant-Leader Testimony by Andrew Kasahara

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Give tangible reinforcement to biblical themes in your event with the expectation of future growth.

- ❖ Capture the biblical text in graphics, symbols, and types

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Notes:

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Event Ideas:

1. Boyhood to manhood event / Girlhood to womanhood event

Purpose: To impart biblical principles of manhood (the man as protector, provider, leader, and shepherd) and womanhood (the woman as helper, showing loyalty, devotion, compassion, sacrificial service and a gentle and quiet spirit), etc.

Target Age: 5th-12th grades

Scripture/Theme: 1 Timothy 4:12 / (passing a baton, victor's wreath, arrow, sword, scroll)

Program Details:

- » Parents and children attend together
- » Use the biblical reference [4:12] for conference title
- » Prayer bookmark, T-shirts with text, Frisbees, booklet for study

2. Father-Daughter Tea

Purpose: To strengthen biblical manhood and womanhood and the father-daughter relationship; (Father- protector, leader, provider) (Daughter- teachable, obedient, pure)

Target Age: 4th-12th grades

Scripture/Theme: Song of Solomon 2:4 (Red Heart), Psalm 23 (Shepherd), Psalm 91:4 (Wings)

Program Details:

- » King's Court and Banquet table
- » Place mats with Royal Proclamation and biblical text
- » Place cards for assigned seating
- » "Kingsport Village" of King's joyful subjects
- » Memento/favor symbolizing the text at each daughter's place
- » Fathers and daughters presented to the King

3. Purity Conference for Girls

Purpose: To encourage young women to surrender completely to Jesus and live a life of purity in heart, mind, body, and soul, for His glory.

Target Age: 5th-12th grades

Scripture/Theme: *Matthew 5:8 - Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.* / Some symbols to reinforce the vision: Daisy to signify freshness and purity, Hands offering white flowers, Ring or necklace with a lock and key, heart design with "pure" in center.

Program Details:

- » Mothers and daughters attend together
- » "Older Sister" speaker to reinforce the teaching
- » "Older Sister" hostesses mentor younger girls over lunch
- » Prayer room manned by mothers and daughters
- » Prayer bookmark, T-shirts, booklets, pens

The Nuts and Bolts of Event Coordinating

24 - 12 months out

1. meet with pastors/leadership to determine event type, theme verses/biblical focus, etc.
2. secure dates and facility
3. secure speaker (your event type may dictate who the speaker is or the speaker may dictate what the event type is)
4. determine registration cost (add food costs, hospitality bag costs, speaker fee, thank you gifts, facility costs, scholarships, etc. divided by estimated number of attendees)

12 - 8 months out

1. event leadership chosen and meetings begin
2. worship leadership chosen
3. secure pastor to welcome/emcee event
4. prayer muster begins
5. promotion begins (church calendars, facebook, blog, web calendars)

8 - 4 months out

1. All print promotional materials completed
2. Registration set up (online and/or paper)
3. Hotel room blocks secured

4 - 2 months out

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| 1. give bookstore order suggestions | 5. meetings with lead team continues |
| 2. continue promotion adding posters, promotional video | 6. hold prayer meetings |
| 3. produce bookmark, booklet, workbook, t-shirts, etc. | 7. monitor registrations |
| 4. determine food items and secure caterer for meals | 8. secure speaker transportation, hotel, meals |
| | 9. secure media/tech support |

2 months - 2 weeks out

1. pulpit announcements
2. registration finalized (online and/or paper)
3. begin purchasing for hospitality bag items
4. meet with facility coordinator to share set-up schematic

2 - 1 weeks out

1. finalize registration and produce roster for check-in
2. print name tags
3. print booklets, workbooks, etc.
4. prepare hospitality bags
5. get final numbers to caterer
6. get final numbers to facility set-up
7. purchase food items not catered
8. encourage captains/workers
9. check-up on speaker transportation, hotel, meals

