



HOW TO HAVE A RITE OF PASSAGE WEEKEND

with Steven Arms

▶ FOCUS VERSE

When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me.
1 Corinthians 13:11

▶ DISCUSSION

1. **What's the earliest memory you have of thinking, "I'm not a boy anymore, I'm a man"?**
 - a. What prompted that realization?
 - b. Did your father, or any male role models in your life, ever have any kind of talk with you about what it meant to become a man?
2. **There's nothing wrong with men enjoying activities that are usually identified with childhood—playing video games, watching cartoons, building models, etc.—but it becomes a problem when those activities take over a person's life at the expense of relationships or responsibilities.**
 - a. Have you ever had a hobby or interest like that that began to take too large a role in your life?
 - b. How did you come to the realization that you needed to take a step back?
3. **When you were young, did you ever go on trips or outings with your dad and/or other men in your family?**



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- a. If so, were they mostly activity-based, or did they include some deep conversations?
 - b. What are your most vivid memories of those occasions?
- 4. If you participated in the “character trait exercise” that Steven talks about with the sticks and ribbons, what are the positive traits you’d tie to your stick, and what are the negative ones?**
- a. What would you say to a young man in your life about those traits that could help him become more mature?
- 5. Which male relative other than your father do you know the best?**
- a. How did you get to know them that well?
 - b. What are some of the most important things that male role model taught you, and did he teach you more by words or by example?
- 6. Of all the advice you received as a boy or teenager, what has proved to be the most valuable and enduring to you as an adult?**
- a. Who gave you that advice?
 - b. Did you recognize its value in the moment, or did it take time and maturity for you to truly appreciate it?
- 7. Is there a young man in your life, relative or otherwise, who has just turned 13 or is about to?**
- a. Do you think he’d be receptive to a rite of passage weekend like the one Steven describes?
 - b. Are there any avenues you might have for mentoring him in any way?

