

HEART CONNEX

Truth Flowing from One Generation to the Next— Through Strong Heart Connections

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God's Direction or Parental Expectation—Richard Ross, Ph.D.

1. Heart Surprise (Today a parent goes first): When it's your turn, say: **Your words have blessed me. If I had to choose the words for your tombstone, I would have it say . . .**

Something from the *Heart Surprise* I want to remember:

2. Read Scripture: Genesis 22:1-2,10-12

Truth

- Parents who trust Christ assist their children in finding God's unique callings on their lives.

Untruths

- Teenagers should make their parents happy by always following in the vocational footsteps of those parents.
- Teenagers should give their parents something to brag about by always going into high-class vocations.
- Teenagers should bring more money into the family by always choosing vocations that offer top pay.

3. Explore Scripture: Write what you want to remember about the Scriptures.

4. Think It Through: A parent will lead this step.

5. Nail It Down: Say: **Abraham was older and weak. Many Bible historians believe Isaac was a teenager. Isaac likely could have overpowered Abraham and run from the altar, but he didn't. Parents, I'm grateful you're releasing me to follow God's special call on my life. At the same time, I want to be under your leadership and instruction. I believe that together we can discover God's very best for me.**

6. Pray: Walk behind your parent and place both hands on his or her shoulders. As you pray out loud, consider including the following: **Father, give my parent(s) great wisdom to know how to direct me toward following Your will. Give them the strength to set aside any other agenda and to want nothing more than Your kingdom and Your glory.**

7. Blessing: Listen as your parent blesses the family.

Teen Tip: Go to your one of your parents and ask: How does being a parent bring you joy? Thank him or her for being your parent. Ask God to help you get ready to be a great parent yourself.