



CITY *Praise*
FAMILY MINISTRIES

THE MAN IN THE MIRROR

MIRROR

James 1:23-25 (AMP)

23 For if anyone only listens to the word without obeying it, he is like a man who looks very carefully at his natural face in a mirror;

24 for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he immediately forgets what he looked like.

25 But he who looks carefully into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and faithfully abides by it, not having become a [careless] listener who forgets but an active doer [who obeys], he will be blessed and favored by God

Step #1 Boyhood

1 Corinthians 13:11

When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

Step #2 Adolescence

This step wasn't in the dictionary in 1920. It's not until modern day that the word "teenager" came about.

Adolescence is a confusing time. It's a time of identity crisis. A time of self-doubt, selfishness, lack of self responsibility, pressing the limits, and pushing back against authority. It is a time when many boys are angry, lustful, and driven by hormones. It is stage one in moving from dependence on mom and dad to independence.

What are the basic elements
God wants us to build into our
children's lives?

1. Community. God says love Him and love others. We were made for relationships. We must train our kids to love others and love God. It's the road into a boy's heart. It's what Trail Life USA is doing.

2. Character. It's choosing what's right instead of wrong. You're training boys to know wisdom, taking Scripture and applying it to life. Teach your kids where you've seen God work and when you've had dry spirit times—as age appropriate.

3. Commitment. When I developed this list in 1990, I had no way of knowing that over the next three decades, the issue of gender and sexual identity would become ground zero of the cultural battle. Your work with boys - to help them understand how God makes us. Understanding how we are created and the importance of marriage and commitment is more critical today than ever before.

4. Commission. A boy needs to know he is God's workmanship. He needs to know and understand his calling. He needs to understand he was created on purpose for a purpose and be prepared to work with all his heart - as unto the Lord - at whatever his hand finds to do. (Col 3:23, Ecc 9:10).

Step #3 Manhood

1 Corinthians 16:13-14 says,
"Be watchful, stand firm in the
faith, act like men, be strong.
14 Let all that you do be done
in love."

Step #4 Mentor

Trail Life USA is all about mentoring boys. 2 Timothy 2:2 says, "and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also."

To every man, I have two questions:

- 1) Who are you mentoring?
- 2) Who is your mentor?

Step #5 Patriarch

Psalm 71:17-18

17 O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.

18 So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.