

1 Corinthians 9:23-27 (KJV) 23 And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you. 24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. 25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. 26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: 27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

Intro:

George Barna one of the leading researchers in Christian circles wrote a book 'Revolutionary Parents, *Raising Your Kids to Become Spiritual Champions*'

In this book, Barna and his team interviewed thousands young adults who were still in their twenties and who were living what he calls '*transformed lives.*' Barna defines a Spiritual Champion as :

*"Spiritual Champion: an irrepressible follower of Jesus Christ who accepts the Bible as truth, lives by its principles, and seeks ways to impact the world and continually deepens his or her relationship with God."*

These spiritual champions are continuing to walk with Christ, even after they have graduated from high school and left home.

Barna's goal was to *"find out what happened during their formative years that led them to become irrepressible followers of Christ."*

## I. Need the Heart of a Champion - Create in your child a heart for God

### A. Salvation

Matthew 19:13-15 (KJV) 13 Then were there brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them. 14 But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven. 15 And he laid his hands on them, and departed thence.

2 Corinthians 4:1-6 (KJV) 1 Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not; 2 But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. 3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. 5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. 6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Romans 10:9-13 (KJV) 9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. 12 For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. 13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

## B. Surrender

*Surrender is a battle term. It implies giving up all rights to the conqueror. When an opposing army surrenders, they lay down their arms, and the winners take control from then on. Surrendering to God works the same way. God has a plan for our lives, and surrendering to Him means we set aside our own plans and eagerly seek His.*

Romans 7:14-15 (KJV) 14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. 15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.

Romans 12:1-2 (KJV) 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

## II. Need the Training of a Champion

To “train” means more than just teaching — or talking, scolding, harping, or nagging. To train means “to prepare for a contest; to instruct by exercise; to drill; to form to a proper shape; to discipline for use.” Training is not the same thing as teaching.

The costs of year-round training programs, travel, equipment, facility and coaching fees have turned youth sports into a \$17 billion-a-year industry, according to WinterGreen Research, a market research firm that tracks the industry. A 2016 TD Ameritrade study reported that two out of 10 families are spending \$1,000 per month on elite youth sports.

## A RANGE OF SPENDING BEHAVIOR

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THE MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM AMOUNTS SPENT PER SPORT IN A 12-MONTH SPAN

\$0  
\$5,000  
\$10,000  
\$15,000  
\$20,000

\$25,000  
\$30,000  
\$35,000

Tennis  
\$34,900  
Gymnastics  
\$30,700  
Swimming  
\$21,020  
Ice Hockey  
\$20,950  
Other Sports  
\$15,900  
Baseball  
\$14,500  
Skiing/Snowboarding  
\$12,000  
Soccer  
\$9,500  
Basketball  
\$9,229  
Volleyball  
\$9,150  
Lacrosse  
\$9,000  
Bicycling  
\$8,700  
Field Hockey  
\$7,750  
Skateboarding  
\$7,500  
Softball  
\$7,000  
Martial Arts  
\$6,500  
Tackle Football  
\$6,100  
Wrestling  
\$4,600  
Cross Country  
\$4,500  
Golf  
\$3,825  
Flag Football  
\$3,240  
Track & Field  
\$3,040

Minimum

Maximum

*The 1,000+ respondents' kids had to have had at least 35 practice, training, or competition days within the previous 12-month period.*

### Cost Training in Teens Ministry

Monthly Activities 200  
Camps 350  
550 - total for every activity !

Train them how to Study the Word of God – give them understanding

Barna writes, *“Remember that your children were made in God’s image, not yours; therefore raise them that way.”*

**A. Teach them to know who God is** - tend to teach more about the Bible than the GOD of the Bible

Philippians 3:10 (KJV) 10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

**B. Train them how to live like HIM** – give them applying scripture

1 Peter 1:13-16 (KJV) 13 Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; 14 As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance: 15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

### **III. Need the Discipline of a Champion – Clean Heart – Sanctification**

**A. Protect them from the battle**

1. Influences coming into your home

“ Just as you have doors and locks on your house you should have safeguards on the media that comes into your house – used to be TV, Movies, now internet

2. Places to go to in the community

**B. Prepare them for battle**

They will not be living in a bubble!

NEA (<https://www.nea.org/advocating-for-change/racial-social-justice>)

## PRIDE WINS: LGBTQ RIGHTS VICTORY RESOURCES

On June 15, 2020, the U.S. Supreme Court announced that LGBTQ employees — including all LGBTQ educators — are protected under federal law from discrimination at work based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

Model School Board Resolution:

\_\_\_\_\_ **BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

***WHEREAS**, it is the right of every child, regardless of gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation, to access a free public K-12 education and the District welcomes and supports all students;*

***WHEREAS**, the District has a responsibility to ensure that all students who reside within its boundaries, regardless of gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation, can safely access a free public K-12 education;*

***WHEREAS**, the District recognizes that there are employees and educators of the highest caliber who are gay, lesbian, and transgender, and that all employees are valued members of the school community regardless of their gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation;*

***WHEREAS**, the District recognizes that there are families in our community of every stripe and the District values all our families, regardless of the family members' gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation;*

***WHEREAS**, [state or local law \_\_\_\_\_] prohibits discrimination, including discrimination based on gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation;*

***WHEREAS**, U.S. Department of Education has failed to protect LGBTQ students, by rescinding guidance interpreting Title IX to protect students from discrimination on the basis of their gender identity;*

***WHEREAS**, the United States Congress has twice failed to pass the Student Non- Discrimination Act, which would prohibit discrimination against public school students on the basis of their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity, or that of their associates;*

***WHEREAS**, in a landmark opinion *Bostock v. Clayton County* decided on June 15, 2020, the United States Supreme Court recognized that discriminating on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity is always a form of sex discrimination, and federal law prohibits sex discrimination in employment and education;*

***WHEREAS**, Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer/Questioning (“LGBTQ”) students experience high rates of bullying, victimization, and harassment at school on the basis of their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity, or that of their associates;*

***WHEREAS**, this bullying, victimization, and harassment has led to negative educational outcomes for LGBTQ students, including higher rates of dropping out, higher rates of absenteeism, and lower postsecondary school aspirations;*

***WHEREAS**, LGBTQ students also report higher rates of anxiety and depression;*

***WHEREAS**, school-age years are a critical time for LGBTQ youth as they often “come out” or*

*disclose their LGBTQ identities to others during that time; I*

***WHEREAS**, creating a welcoming and safe school environment for our LGBTQ students, staff, and families makes our school community more welcoming and safe to all;*

***AND WHEREAS**, educational personnel are often the primary sources of support, resources, and information to assist and support students and student learning, which includes their emotional health;*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the District prohibits discrimination against all persons, whether student, family of a student, or District employee, on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, or the actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression of their associates;*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the District prohibits bullying and harassment against all persons, whether student or District employee, on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, or the actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression of their associates;*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board declares the District to be a Safe Space for its students, meaning that the District is a place for students to learn, to thrive and to seek assistance, information, and support free from discrimination and bullying;*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that every School within the District shall, within 30 days of the date of this Resolution, take steps to create a safe climate for LGBTQ students, including designating an LGBTQ liaison and providing support for any LGBTQ student groups including Gay-Straight Alliances or Gender and Sexuality Alliances (“GSAs”);*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the District shall, within 30 days of the date of this Resolution, create procedures to address anti-LGBTQ bullying and harassment which will include procedures for how students may report bullying and harassment, prohibit retaliation against any student for reporting bullying and harassment, and require schools to track and report data on incidents of anti-LGBTQ bullying and harassment;*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the District shall, within 30 days of the date of this Resolution, review and modify its antidiscrimination policies to ensure that those policies prohibit LGBTQ discrimination;*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the District shall, shall within 30 days of the date of this resolution, work with the relevant exclusive bargaining representatives to determine how LGBTQ anti-discrimination policies can best be incorporated in existing or future collective bargaining agreements;*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the District shall within 30 days of the date of this Resolution, create a plan for Professional Development related to anti-LGBTQ bullying and harassment, so that all District employees are trained to recognize and respond to anti-LGBTQ bullying and harassment;*

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the District shall allow students and staff to use requested names and pronouns without requiring a legal name change or medical diagnosis; provide equal

2

access to all programs and facilities, including access to bathroom and locker room facilities as needed for all students and staff that align with the students' and staff members' gender expression, and provide at least one gender-neutral bathroom; respect the privacy of all staff and students who are in transition;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that any dress code for District employees or students should be gender neutral;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the District and schools shall incorporate LGBTQ people and issues in school curricula, including in health and sex education; school libraries shall include materials in school libraries that portray LGBTQ figures in a positive light; Districts and schools shall ensure that the curricula include diverse perspectives, especially LGBTQ people of color and issues specific to communities of color;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Schools shall provide students with access to LGBTQ resources;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the District shall designate October as LGBTQ history month, May 22 as Harvey Milk Day, and November 20 as Transgender Day of Remembrance, in honor of Rita Hester and other victims of transphobic violence.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the District shall post this Resolution at every school site and distribute it to District staff, students, and parents using usual means of communication, and that the Resolution will be translated into all languages spoken by students at home;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Superintendent shall report back on compliance with this Resolution to the Board at its next meeting;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Board affirms that certificated District employees have the academic freedom to discuss this Resolution during class time provided it is age-appropriate; and students are to be made aware that District counselors are available to discuss the subjects contained in this Resolution; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, after-school providers and other vendors and service providers who contract with the District shall be notified of this Resolution within 30 days and

required to abide by it. SIGNATURE PAGE]

[FOLLOWED BY SCHOOL BOARD

<http://edjustice.staging.wpengine.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020.06.24-Adapted-Sample-Board-Resolution-for-LGBTQ.pdf>

## 1. Weapons

Ephesians 6:10-18 (KJV) 10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to

stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. 13 Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; 15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: 18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

**B. Prayer warriors** – moms, dads, grandparents, church family

## **IV. Need the Determination of a Champion**

### **A. How to deal with Distractions**

Keep eyes on finish line

Hebrews 12:1-2 (KJV) 1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

### **B. How to Deal with Discouragement**

Hebrews 11:6 (KJV) 6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.