

# THE PARENT INSIDER

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## Modeling A Commitment To Excellence For Your Children

We need to model and teach a commitment to excellence

By Dennis and Barbara Rainey

Not long after we began our family Barbara and I decided we would go away for a weekend and hammer out a statement of values that we wanted to embed in our children. Each of us wrote our top values individually, and then we discussed them as a couple. Although we agreed on the top two or three values, we differed greatly on the others. One for Barbara was teaching our children a strong work ethic, something that didn't

even make the radar screen on my list. But after some stimulating discussion around our differences, we embraced this value of a strong work ethic for our children. I'm convinced that our discussion and ultimate agreement has done wonders for training our children to stay out of this trap called mediocrity.

As you consider your own convictions in this area, here are two candidates:

Article continued on Pgs 4.

## Youth Beat: Quick Stats

- On average, teens reported getting 7.7 hours of sleep on school nights. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that teens get 8 to 10 hours of sleep each night. (Pediatrics)
- In 2015, there were 1.5 million reported cases of chlamydia - the highest number of STD cases ever reported to the government - and people between the ages of 15 and 24 accounted for the largest number of infections. (CDC and TIME Magazine)

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## TOP TEN MOVIES



Movies 11/11/2016 - 11/13/2016

Source: Box Office Mojo

	<u>Box Office Movies</u>	<u>Gross Income</u>
1	<i>Doctor Strange</i>	\$43 mil
2	<i>Trolls</i>	\$35.1 mil
3	<i>Arrival</i>	\$24 mil
4	<i>Almost Christian</i>	\$15.6 mil
5	<i>Hacksaw Ridge</i>	\$10.8 mil
6	<i>The Accountant</i>	\$4.6 mil
7	<i>Shut In</i>	\$3.7 mil
8	<i>Boo! A Madea Halloween</i>	\$3.6 mil
9	<i>Jack Reacher: Never Go Back</i>	\$3.3 mil
10	<i>Inferno</i>	\$3.3 mil

## Top Ten Video Games

1. Battlefield 1 (PS4)
2. Battlefield 1 (XOne)
3. Gears of War 4 (XOne)
4. NBA 2K17 (PS4)
5. NBA 2K17 (XOne)
6. Mafia III (PS4)
7. Rise of the Tomb Raider (PS4)
8. Batman: Return to Arkham (PS4)
9. Mafia III (XOne)
- WWE 2K17 (PS4)

U.S. Video Game Sales  
Week Ending  
October 22, 2016  
Source: VGChartz

## Celebrity Quotes

*"I tried everything that they had - wine, women, song, money, career, drugs, art - every kind of extravagance; every kind of restraint. Everything helped in its way in that it said, 'This doesn't work.' I think that's the greatest help you can get - to find out that it doesn't work - because nothing works. Nothing in this human realm was meant to work."*

-Leonard Cohen

## PRAYER CENTRAL:

### Things to pray about, with, and for your kids

Pray for the other parents of teens

Pray for Flipside and it's leaders

Pray that the teens continue to grow in their relationship with Jesus and are bold with sharing.

Prayer should be something we look forward to. It is a time we get to talk with our Creator. Make sure you are making prayer a staple in your home and show your kids it's exciting!

## Verse of the Month

**"And Mary said,  
"My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,"**

**- Luke 1:46-47**

This time of year can be busy and hectic. Make sure you are taking time for yourself and with your family to be in God's Word. The above verse is a great reminder from Luke. This section of scripture, commonly called the Magnificat, shows Mary's response to after finding out she was pregnant with the Savior. She could have done many things but instead chose to praise and worship God. Great reminders for a busy, hectic and stressful time of year.

# Cutting Edge Music: Parent Shaming on Social Media

## Avenged Sevenfold- "The Stage"



**Background:** An American heavy metal band from Huntington Beach, California, formed in 1999. The band's current lineup consists of lead vocalist M. Shadows, rhythm guitarist and backing vocalist Zacky Vengeance, lead guitarist and backing vocalist Synyster Gates, bassist and backing vocalist Johnny Christ, and drummer Brooks Wackerman. Avenged Sevenfold is known for its diverse rock sound and dramatic imagery in

album covers and merchandise. Avenged Sevenfold emerged with a metalcore sound on the band's debut *Sounding the Seventh Trumpet*. However, Avenged Sevenfold's style had evolved by the band's third album and first major label release, *City of Evil*, into a heavy metal and hard rock style. Avenged Sevenfold has released seven studio albums, one live album compilation DVD, and eighteen singles and have sold over 8 million albums worldwide

**What Parents should know about their new album:** *The Stage* is a peculiar album. Avenged Sevenfold is obviously interested in spiritual questions, a theme the band has addressed (albeit sometimes with problematic theological perspectives) throughout its career. These five guys aren't afraid to sing about heaven and hell, salvation and damnation, God and the devil, identity and afterlife. But at the end of this (occasionally profane) journey in which M. Shadows and Co. have asked some interesting questions—"What does it mean to be a man?" and, "Have I lost myself forever?"—the band responds to those spiritual queries with a scientific answer. Out trots Neal deGrasse Tyson, delivering a rambling rumination about the beauty and truth of the universe—as if his enraptured infatuation with the cosmos is all we really need in order to understand life. The result is a jarring, unsatisfying conclusion to a concept album that does a better job of asking important questions than it does answering them.

For the full write up, visit [www.pluggedin.com/musicreviews](http://www.pluggedin.com/musicreviews). Also, visit [pluggedin.com](http://pluggedin.com) for other music reviews.

As our use of social media has become a bigger and bigger part of our lives, it's necessary for us to monitor how kids are using social media. In particular we want to keep them from posting in inappropriate ways. But recently, we've been learning that as parents, we need to be careful about using social media as a way to discipline or call-out our kids. More and more parents are reacting by posting rants about their kids' behavior. You might have seen videos of fathers smashing a child's cellphone, or mothers verbally berating a daughter for posting inappropriate photos. Parents, we believe that public shaming on social media is a dangerous practice. You see, shame is more about who our kids are, as opposed to what they have done. When our children fall into sin, it is best to address the behavior and issue discipline in the privacy of the home and relationship. Godly discipline addresses the root heart issues of behavior. Public shaming only fuels more rebellion.

## Featured Film: Newly Released in Theater

### SYNOPSIS— *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* —Opens December 16

**Starring:** Felicity Jones, Diego Luna, Ben Mendelsohn, Donnie Yen, Jiang Wen

Rated PG-13--Sci-Fi Violence and Action



In a time of conflict, a group of unlikely heroes band together on a mission to steal the plans to the Death Star, the Empire's ultimate weapon of destruction. This key event in the Star Wars timeline brings together ordinary people who choose to do extraordinary things, and in doing so, become part of something greater than themselves

For more information on the movie check out [www.pluggedin.com](http://www.pluggedin.com) under their media section

Check out [www.pluggedin.com](http://www.pluggedin.com) for more information on new

### Other Movies in Theaters

Title	Rating	Red Flags	Genre	Starring
<b>Assassin's Creed</b> Opens Dec. 21	PG-13	Thematic Elements, Brief Strong Language, Intense Sequences of Violence and of Action	Action/Adventure	Michael Fassbender, Marion Cotillard, Jeremy Irons, Brendan Gleeson, Charlotte Rampling
<b>A Monster Calls</b> Opens Dec. 23	PG-13	Some Scary Images and Thematic Content	Drama/Fantasy	Cast:Felicity Jones, Sigourney Weaver, Liam Neeson, Toby Kebbell, Geraldine Chaplin
<b>Why Him?</b> Opens Dec. 25	n/a	n/a	Comedy	Cast:James Franco, Bryan Cranston, Zoey Deutch, Megan Mullally

## **1. We need to model and teach a commitment to excellence.**

The stabilizing force in my life was my family. They taught me the standard. Mom always did it right. Dad's character was always rock solid. Both had grown up in families that were rich in relationships and poor by the world's standard. But they both worked hard. At work. At home. And at play. Everything about their lives—from the school board elections and the Little League teams they coached to caring for elderly parents—rejected mediocrity and modeled a commitment to excellence. Barbara's parents modeled the same standard.

So when we began to discuss our standards for our children at home, school, work, and play, we both drew from a deep reservoir called family. Both of us grew up learning what Barbara's dad used to say: "If it's worth doing, it's worth doing right." We hope that our lives reflect that. We are certainly trying to pass on the challenge to excel to our children.

What are your convictions when it comes to maximizing your potential? Are you easily satisfied with the status quo? Does your child see you as a growing, developing, and hard-working person? Are you challenging him to work to his fullest God-given potential? Are you being a John Mulroy to your son? Your daughter? Are you calling him or her away from a snare called mediocrity? When it comes to desiring much more than mediocrity from our children, we need first to examine our own ideas, habits, and performance.

## **2. We believe God has given us the responsibility of developing children to their fullest potential.**

Here's where I'm going to take the opportunity to brag on Barbara. When our children are a little older they will recognize that she has been the driving force behind much that they accomplished during their time at home. At key points she refused to let them slide into the

anonymity of the herd and be average.

She pressed them to be their best. She cheered them on when they struggled. She even home-schooled a preteen and teen to make sure they learned some basics before they had to face junior high. And she was always the one who prodded me to stay up late and help with those science fair projects.

With six children, she sure didn't feel that she was always succeeding. In fact, I can tell you that she continues to struggle with knowing just how much to push and when to back off.

Many times I have watched as she's called a child back to the kitchen to insist a job be redone well when it would have been easier to just finish the job herself. Helping her children reach their potential is a part of her calling as a mom.

Someday they'll rise up and bless her for it.

### **For the single parent**

Never forget that your model of hard work and commitment to your family will pay big dividends in your child. He will observe your standards and your commitment to excellence, drawing strength like water from a well.

I know of one woman, Marjorie Schulte, who raised six children through the turbulent teenage years by taking on a variety of jobs, including a paper route at 4:00 a.m. She was home in time to send her children off to school, and then she took in laundry and did odd jobs for families so that she could be there for her children when they arrived home after school. Today all six of her children are college graduates, including one from Yale. Her fierce commitment to excellence was caught by her children, who today are living lives that honor God.

Article found at [www.familylife.com](http://www.familylife.com)

# Youth Group News

## Events

**Christmas Party– Dec. 10th-** Our annual FlipSide Christmas party starts at 6:30 pm. We should wrap up around 9:30 pm. We will be having a White Elephant gift exchange. All students who want to participate need to bring a wrapped gift. They can be as nice or gag giftish as you want. Students need to use sound judgment on what type of gifts they bring. We will also be playing some games, writing letters to our church shut-ins and having a time to reflect on our gift of Jesus. All need to eat dinner before they come. We will have snacks and drinks though.

**Christmas Caroling– Dec. 9th–** We will be going to West Park Nursing Home to sing Christmas carols to the residents. It's an amazing thing to do and brings such joy to them. We will meet there at 6:45 pm.

NOTE– This is a all church function.

**No Youth–** We will not be having youth group on Dec. 25. Enjoy time with family and celebrating Christ!

**Ice Skating– Dec. 28th-** We will be ice skating at Fountain Square. Meet at church at 6 pm. Cost is \$10 for skating. Bring extra money for food (they have concessions). Will return around 9:30 pm.

## News

**Lock-In–**Our annual lock-in will be here before you know it! It's on January 15. The following day is Martin Luther King Day. If you are off work and would be willing to help out at the lock-in, let us know!

**Dare2Share–** This youth conference that teaches kids about evangelism is March 17-18. The closest one is in St. Louis, so we will be road tripping! The catch we have to leave early on Friday. Start looking ahead and praying about letting your teen miss a school day to go on this great trip to grow and stretch themselves! Cost is \$50 for the tickets, plus meal money.

## On the Horizon

**Lock-in– Jan. 15th–** Overnight Lock-in with games, inflatables, food and more!

**Volleyball Starts– Jan. 22nd–** Official games start

**Murder Mystery– Feb. 11–**More details to come.

**Winterjam– Feb. 18**

**Famine– Feb. 24-25–** More details to come.

## Youth Group Teaching Schedule

December 4: – **What Up John?** - Luke 1:57-80

December 11: **Mary, "DID" you know?** – Luke 1:26-56

December 18: **Here Come Jesus!** - Luke 2:1-21, Is. 7

December 25: **Christmas–No Youth Group**

# Youth Culture Music Artists Top Ten

All information for Radio Airplay was for the week of 11/15 from Mediabase.

Rank	Radio Airplay
1	DJ Snake – Let Me Love You
2	The Chainsmokers - Closer
3	twentyonepilots – Heathens
4	The Weeknd – Starboy
5	Gnash f/Olivia O'Brien – I Hate U, I Love U
6	Ariana Grande – Side to Side
7	Bruno Mars – 24K Magic
8	Alessia Cara – Scars To Your Beautiful
9	Hailee Steinfeld & Grey – Starving
10	Maroon 5 – Don't Wanna Know

# D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 6

S U N	M O N	T U E	W E D	T H U	F R I	S A T
				1	2	3
4 Sunday School @ 9:30 am Youth Group @ 6:00pm	5	6	7	8	9 Christmas Caroling at West Park @ 6:4 5 pm	10 Christmas Party @ 6:30 pm
11 Sunday School @ 9:30 am Youth Group @ 6:00pm	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Sunday School @ 9:30 am Youth Group @ 6:00pm	19	20	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve
25 Sunday School @ 9:30 am Christmas No Youth Group	26	27	28 Ice Skating at Fountain Square at 6 pm	29	30	31

## Youth Trends: "Adolescent Hearing Loss"

Parents, one of our primary responsibilities is to lead our children from childhood through adolescence and into a healthy adulthood. Of course, we want them to be spiritually and emotionally healthy. But we must also work to facilitate their physical health. Medical professionals are now sounding a warning regarding the possibilities of adolescent hearing loss as a result of growing up in an ever-louder world. In particular, personal listening devices that are accessed through earbuds have created an environment that is doing serious damage to hearing. Noise affects the ear through mechanical and metabolic damage to the sensory hair cells in the cochlea. The extent of noise damage is determined not only by how loud our kids are listening, but by how long they are exposed to loud noises. With ninety percent of adolescents using earphones, it's even more important that we educate them on safe use, and monitor that use. God's given them the gift of hearing. Let's protect it!

Source: CPYU