

ARROW

Release (Week 2)

LifeNotes

TALK IT OVER

Main Idea

A clean release for the next generation is essential if we are going to empower them to hit the target.

Key Scriptures

Unless the LORD builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; unless the LORD guards the city, the watchmen keeps awake in vain. It is vain for you to rise up early, to retire late, to eat the bread of painful labors; for He grants sleep to those He loves. Behold, children are a gift of the LORD, the fruit of the womb is a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth. How blessed is the man whose quiver is full of them; they will not be ashamed when they speak with their enemies in the gate. Psalm 127

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. Genesis 2:24

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

And Manoah said, "Now when your words come true, what is to be the child's manner of life, and what is his mission?" Judges 13:12

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations; baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. Matthew 28:19-20

If you don't let the arrow off the string, you won't hit the target.

A clean release sets children up for their common mission.

Two Timeless Truths:

1. In archery as in parenting, the name of the game is to let it go.
2. Keep the end in mind from the beginning.

Start talking.

- How does it impact your thinking to consider our homes, LifeGroups, and church as launching pads?
- What keeps parents from giving their children a clean release?
- What does a clean release look like?

Start thinking.

- Read Psalm 127. What are ways you can partner with the LORD to build your house?
- What is the purpose of every arrow?
- Read Genesis 2:24. Why is it important to leave our mothers and fathers?
- How does that verse apply to singles?
- Read Proverbs 22:6. Children are meant to "go", to launch into the world. How are some homes organized like prisons instead of launch pads?
- Read Judges 13:12. How do we seek the mission for our children?
- Read Matthew 28:19-20. What is the common mission for every generation?

Start sharing.

- Prison or launch pad...what was your experience growing up?
- How does a single person and/or those without children apply this message?
- Have you taken the time to clearly articulate the common mission Jesus has for all of us with the next generation?
- In what ways are you help to launch and release the next generation?

Start doing.

- What is one constraint you've pressed upon children that you need to release?
- Who can you come alongside and help them launch and release? Maybe it's a child, maybe it's a young couple, maybe it's an older adult that continues to hold on too tight to their adult kids.

Closing prayer.

Jesus help us to create environments where the next generation feel empowered to embrace their unique "bends" and to launch into the world. Help us guide the next generation well. Pointing them toward you, your purpose, and your mission for their lives. Help us reject fear and unnecessary constraints and instead offer the next generation a clean release into adulthood. Amen.