

12th GRADE VIDEO SCRIPTS

12th Grade: Manhood/Womanhood Ceremony

Speaker: A few years ago, I was asked to participate with a dad who wanted to hold a special evening of blessing for his 18-year-old son. He asked a few of his men who have been influential in his son's life to attend and after spending some time-sharing, it was the father's turn. It was amazing to watch. He began by asking his son to kneel down on the ground in front of him. Then, he went over to the closet. He brought out this huge braveheart sword that he had bought for this evening. And then he laid this sword down on the son's shoulder and he said something to him that I would never forget. He said, "son, I know many 30 and 40 year old men who act like children because no one ever told them that they were a man. So tonight, on your eighteenth birthday, based on the authority of God's word that he has given me, I say to you that you knelt down as a boy, you will rise as a man. You know what? That was one of the most powerful parenting moment I have ever witnessed. Watching the look on that man's face when he stood, he stood with pride. You see, he was a man because his dad said he was. The blessing in that moment was unleashed. When you unleash your blessing as a parent, you're unleashing your teenager to change the world. Who wouldn't want to give that kind of blessing to their son or daughter?"

Your student ministry wants to help you exercise your biblical authority to proclaim to your son or daughter that they are now an adult. Every great story needs to have a grand finale. This manhood and womanhood ceremony is the grand finale to the story of your teenager's childhood and adolescence. It's an opportunity to hold a figurative mirror up to their soul and give them a glimpse of who God created them to be. When you bless your teenager during this time, you're focusing less on their performance and more on their identity. This is a great time to invite key people in the life of your teenager to join you and explain to them what a real man or a real woman of God looks like. Through this expression of authority, you are unleashing your teenager into adulthood with your blessing. There is nothing more powerful than that. Your student ministry has provided you with resources that you need to create an amazing grand finale.

Parent guide for 12th Grade: Manhood/Womanhood Ceremony

Speaker: One of the great privileges given by God to a parent is the ability to unleash their teenager into adulthood. If you are wondering whether or not it's a big deal, just talk to an adult who never received their parents' blessing. It's a huge deal.

It's a chance for you to launch your teenager into the world of understanding who God made them to be. Begin by talking with your teenager about this special occasion. Ask them to list for you those who have been influential in their life. The answer to that question would serve as the guest list for the ceremony. When you invite attendees to be a part of the occasion, we recommend that you ask them to prepare a special word of encouragement defining and affirming biblical manhood or womanhood. Let your teenager have a say in what the ceremony will look like. They will probably have an opinion on whether it is a small, intimate gathering or a huge party. They can help determine what the setting will look like and you can focus on what will be said. We have prepared a planning guide resource to help you write down the agenda for the evening. Make sure you have a chance to think and pray through what you want to communicate during this special event. Write down ahead of time the word you want to share with them. Make sure you state to them that they are no longer a child; they are no longer an adolescent but that they have now reached adulthood. Consult your planning guide for a list of scriptures you might want to read during the ceremony. After everyone has had a chance to share encouragement with your teenager, take a moment to share with them yourself. You might also want to give them a symbol to help them remember that night that you declared them to be an adult.