

PURE+HOPE

prayunderstandresolveengage

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Seize the Opportunity as Kids Head Back to School

It's hard to believe that it's already September and another school year is upon us; it seems only yesterday that swimming pools were opening for the summer and kids were cheering the end of classes. However, as busy as life becomes this month, this season also provides us with an opportunity to refocus on equipping our kids to pursue purity, model integrity, and make good choices in an increasingly sexualized environment.

Most of us are aware that our young people today are exposed to all manner of harmful content online; moreover, inappropriate sexual attitudes and behavior predominate in the culture, and peer pressure seems to be intensifying in the digital age. It is easy for those of us parenting in this environment to feel overwhelmed. But we need not.

Taking a proactive approach in our parenting is empowering and charts a path for growth while heading off problems before they happen. The first step is pursuing purity in our own lives, and activating that as a family unit by shaping a culture of communication and openness in our home. For most of us, the primary step in working that out is in our approach to technology, prudently enjoying its benefits while avoiding its perils.

"As the father of three teenagers, rarely does a day go by that I don't have the opportunity to engage with my kids in the area of technology," said Dan Martin, director of pureHOPE's parenting ministry. "Whether it's their Facebook page, their

latest tweet or an online gaming session, my kids are interacting with and being shaped by technology every day. Our kids need us to step up and equip them with God's truth as it applies to their interaction with technology. Too many parents are sitting idly by and missing this great opportunity."



We recommend a four-part approach to equipping and protecting your kids and strengthening your family: **pray, understand, resolve, and engage (PURE).**

The first step in the Christian life is always prayer. Developing intimacy with God always deepens our faith and produces the fruit of love, joy, peace in all of our relationships. And as parents, our first priority is to pray for our children and intercede on their behalf as they grow and bump up against the challenges life presents them.

Secondly, we need to grow in our understanding. We must know God's will as communicated in Scripture. We should pursue our children, seeking to know their hearts and minds and encourage them in the faith. And we need to understand the culture around us, allowing us to engage it and its technologies with knowledge and discernment.

Resolve is crucial to the long journey of parenting a child. It takes perseverance to navigate the winding path we are walking with our kids, one



that is filled with missteps and pitfalls that only enduring love and grace can remedy.

Then, we must engage. Cultivating deep relationships is hard work, especially with our kids. But it is worth it. They need and deserve our full attention, which includes loving communication, reasonable boundaries, and wise counsel in guarding their hearts and offering their bodies as living sacrifices (Romans 12:1).

And today, that parental engagement must include a plan with respect to technology. We must model prudent and respectful tech use, and agree as a family to specific guidelines and rules, which might include the following:

- No computers or mobile phones in bedrooms at night
- Shared passwords for email and social media sites
- No posting of personal information or inappropriate text or images
- Activated parental controls on all devices (computers, phones, gaming devices, etc.)
- Monitoring/filtering software such as Covenant Eyes on all computers and mobile devices

As school opens, let's take the time to refocus our family on pursuing purity and protecting our homes, and in doing so model God's love through thoughtful, grace-based engagement with the world around us.

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

pureHOPE Ministers at Youth Quest 2011

pureHOPE Vice President Noel Bouché was part of an impressive slate of speakers at Youth Quest 2011, which was held in Atlanta this July. The event is the annual youth conference for the International Pentecostal Holiness Church (IPHC), and this year over 1,300 teens and youth ministry leaders were in attendance.

Noel joined Perry Noble of NewSpring Church, Matt Pitt of "The Basement," worship leader Brett Younker of Passion City Church, and other speakers who brought messages of love, hope, and redemption to the youth in attendance. This year's speaking topics ranged from drug addiction to pornography to surrendering all areas of your life to Jesus. The youth leaders and teens responded very positively to the

messages and during several of the services, teens flooded the altars for a time of prayer and ministry.

"The Holy Spirit was really moving and I know that so many people's lives were changed and that they are closer to God," said teen Seth Pierce on Facebook. "I fully support this ministry and pray it continues for many more years in the future. I'm telling you, this is a life changing event!"

Noel's talk walked the audience through God's design for sex and its reflection of His love for His bride, as well as the harm and injustice of pornography and why a pursuit of purity through prayer, understanding, resolve, and engagement is central to God's purpose for our lives.

"I was honored by [Youth Quest director] Charles Boyd's invitation to bring the Word and represent pureHOPE, and it was a privilege to minister to



and pray with these awesome young followers of Jesus," Bouché said. "This emerging generation faces unbelievable challenges to their sexual integrity, but the opportunity they have to communicate God's love, purity, and grace to a broken world is huge. I have a new burden to encourage, mentor, and pray for this generation after participating in Youth Quest."

The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love. Psalm 33:5

Don't Forget... pureHOPE Annual Banquet and Silent Auction

Thursday, November 10, 2011 • Manor House - Mason, Ohio • 5:30pm – 9:00pm

You will not want to miss the gripping testimony of former porn actress and Executive Director of the Pink Cross Foundation, Shelley Lubben, who was saved by the grace of Jesus Christ and now helps those caught in the snare of the porn industry.

Join us for a celebratory evening of fellowship as we look back at our work over the past year and get a glimpse into the exciting future of pureHOPE.

Invitations will be sent in the next couple of weeks, but in the meantime, if you are interested in attending, please contact **Joanne Samad** at joanne@purehope.net

We hope you can join us for this inspiring event.



Inspire Others With Your Story

Have you experienced God's victory in your life or family? Been touched by the ministry of pureHOPE? Got a story that will encourage or help other parents navigate the sexualized culture?

Tell us your story on Facebook by visiting www.purehope.net and click on the Facebook link, or email us at stories@purehope.net.



2011 pureJUSTICE Interns Head Back to Campus

After eight weeks of research, writing, public speaking, professional meetings, and spiritual formation, the 2011 class of pureJUSTICE interns are back on campus and eager to make a difference in opposing sexual exploitation and leading others toward purity and justice.



Christie Arnold (University of North Carolina), Mary Ann Jiang (Ohio State University), Han Eol (Anny) Lee (William & Mary), and Ana Stutler (Wayne State University Law School) wrapped up their experience in mid-August. In the midst of regular prayer, bible study, and fellowship,

the interns worked intensely on developing educational resources, giving informational talks to groups, and meeting with professionals and activists involved in anti-trafficking work.

"My experience at pureHOPE was more than I could have asked for," Ana Stutler said. "God used every aspect of it, from the very intentional meetings with professionals, to the non-intentional conversations along the way."

"Spiritual transformation was amazing for me in that it wasn't forced," added Mary Ann Jiang. "We were stretched through the discussion on what justice is, what pornography really does to the soul, but most importantly, the nature of this work forces you into God's bosom."

The interns worked closely with Noel Bouché, the director of the program, which focuses on professional development, spiritual formation, and developing strategic partnerships as pureHOPE continues to collaborate with other groups to oppose sex trafficking and porn culture while equipping the Christian community for purity and justice.

Two specific partnerships were of note. Several meetings and video conferences with Michael Bartel of F.R.E.E. International and Theresa

Flores of Gracehaven House helped lay the groundwork for a campaign to mobilize dozens of churches to engage in human trafficking awareness and rescue in Indianapolis during the 2012 Super Bowl. Also, for the second year in a row, the pureJUSTICE interns worked with Covenant Eyes, the accountability software maker, to develop content for their Breaking Free Blog, including articles, videos, and interviews with leading anti-trafficking and anti-porn activists across the country. You can view this content at www.covenanteyes.com/blog.

Eleven interns have now come through the pureJUSTICE program; they are opposing sexual exploitation and pointing others to Christ in workplaces, graduate programs, and college campuses across the country. Our staff trust these eleven are the first of many yet to come.

Educate yourself about purity, justice, and the evil of sexual exploitation by visiting www.purehope.net and reading Exploited: Sex Trafficking, Porn Culture, and the Call to a Lifestyle of Justice. Take advantage of other resources while you're there, like our pureJUSTICE Bible study, and watch for coming news and resources.

All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. 1 John 3:3

Coming Soon... The pureHOPE Blog!

As part of our mission of providing Christian solutions in a sexualized culture, pureHOPE is launching a blog to inform, equip, and inspire those who share our vision of a world free of sexual exploitation and brokenness.

Visit www.purehopeblog.net, where you will find:

- Tips and tools for individuals, parents, and ministry leaders
- Audio and video interviews
- News and inspirational stories
- Announcements of upcoming events
- Special guest bloggers



p r a y u n d e r s t a n d r e s o l v e e n g a g e



Letter from the President

Dear friend,

Although it can be somewhat sad to see the summer end, I hope you are finding the crisp, cool mornings a welcome break from the hot weather we've had over the last few months.

The new school year can present opportunities and challenges for parents as you manage homework and busy activity schedules. We know that kids today face substantial peer pressure, but the good news is that as parents you have tremendous influence over your kids; you can guide them to a close relationship with Christ and equip them with the tools necessary to make wise choices.

Summer was a busy time at pureHOPE and we expect the fall to be even busier. Just as the start of another school year brings with it a sense of excitement, we at pureHOPE are excited for the future of our ministry and the opportunities before us.

In July our Vice President, Noel Bouché, addressed a crowd of over 1,300 at Youth Quest in Atlanta, Georgia; events like these provide a wonderful opportunity to minister to the Christian leaders of tomorrow.

Our summer interns recently completed eight weeks of research, writing, public speaking and continued development of strategic partnerships with other groups who oppose sex trafficking and the porn culture. One important piece has been their contribution of content to the Covenant Eyes Breaking Free Blog, which you can find at www.covenanteyes.com/blog. Speaking of blogs, we are thrilled to announce the launch of the pureHOPE blog this month, which we feel is an important tool in our goal of equipping people to pursue a life of purity and justice. Be sure to look for it at www.purehopeblog.net.

Finally, don't forget to set aside November 10th for the pureHOPE Annual Banquet and Silent Auction. Our featured speaker, Shelley Lubben, is a former porn actress who has an amazing testimony of how she was saved by the grace of God and now ministers to others caught in an evil industry that exploits men, women and children.

Although the economy has left many feeling insecure over the past few years, we have hope in the knowledge that God holds our future. This knowledge gives us the courage to boldly step out in faith and trust Him not only with our ministry, but also with our finances and our very lives.

We are sincerely grateful for your prayers and financial support of our ministry, which allows us to continue making a difference. Please prayerfully consider how you may partner with us in the coming months.

With hope for children & families,

Rick Schatz

President and CEO



Did You Know...

- Nearly 50% of adolescents between the ages of 12-18 feel pressured into having sex in relationships.
- In a 2003 poll, 45 percent of teenagers said their parents influenced their decisions about sex most strongly.
- Almost all teens (94 percent) believe that teens should be given a strong message from society to abstain from sex until at least after high school.
- A study of over 2,000 public high school students found that the more time youths spent unsupervised, the more likely they were to have had sex.
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development demonstrated that actively involved parents who knew their children's friends and had regular conversations with their children improved their ability to deal with teen peer pressure.

**Statistics courtesy of Family Research Council*

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