



Sixth Grade Challenge #1 (Part 1 of 2) - You Choose Your Destination

As men we have a certain set of responsibilities each day. Learning to prioritize those responsibilities is key to our success in life. If we always prioritize the things that “feel best” over the things we KNOW are important we can dig some pretty deep holes and find ourselves stressed out and playing catch up.

We have a choice in the matter. We can recognize that playing XBOX for three hours after school might not be the best habit to build but we find ourselves choosing that instead of doing homework and getting our chores done. When you make the choice to prioritize the “mission critical” tasks and then reward yourself with the “fun stuff” there is tremendous freedom in that choice. You make those around you happy and you are better able to enjoy the things that you choose to do for fun. You also start to build a reputation for being reliable, responsible and trust-worthy...who doesn't want that??

Our choice to prioritize and complete the “mission critical” tasks will suit us well as men and earn you favor and position in life. You will be rewarded for this discipline!! John and I would like to present a challenge to you. **If you complete this challenge you will be well on your way to earning the Gladiator Sword. This is a two-part challenge – once you complete the first phase below you will receive the second phase:**

1. Sit down with mom and dad and define your “base-line” responsibilities as a sixth-grader and member of your household. This is a list that you and parents come up with together. Lean into mom and dad here, listen to what they have to say and make sure you ALL agree on your list. I have included a sample list below that my son and I developed his Junior year in high school.
2. Now that you have the list - prioritize that list from critically important to important. Set priority based on where you are in your life. Right now, school is one of the most important responsibilities you have. So you may want to put that first. As you move through life you will find that your priorities will shift and you need to be aware and make adjustments. Here is the list once Peyton and I put them in order of most important to important.
3. Once you have your list complete. Email that list to John and me.
4. John and/or I will confirm back once we received the list and we will send you the next challenge that affords you the opportunity to win the hoodie.

Sample List: (Yours will be different but it should be a list you develop with mom and dad)

Make the List

- Be in a small group
- Make room in my schedule for “ME TIME”
- Fulfill my responsibilities at home
 - Respect mom at ALL times
 - Demonstrate love to my sister
 - Do my chores
 - Be aware of when you can help out and offer to help
- Hold a job
- Make my grades

Prioritize the List

1. Make my grades
2. Fulfill my responsibilities at home
 - a. Respect Mom at ALL times
 - b. Demonstrate love to my sister
 - c. Do my chores
 - d. Be aware of when you can help out and offer to help
3. Be in a small group
4. Hold a job
5. Make room in my schedule for “ME TIME”

You are in control

This is not meant to be anything that puts pressure on you. If you, as a member of our group, decide not to participate – that is your choice. *Note to mom and dad, let them make the decision to participate.*

The best habits in life are those that are intentional...meaning the ones you work hard to develop that do not necessarily come natural. The habit that John and I would like you to start building is SELF-ASSESSMENT. Taking an inventory of what you are doing that is working and what you are doing that is not. The strongest men we know are those who can take a hard look at their behavior and choose to adjust that behavior to benefit of those around them. Self-assessment is hard but it is extremely rewarding.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to ask us. We hope you choose to accept this challenge and good luck.