

BOOK REVIEW

BRETT ULLMAN holds nothing back as he expounds on 3 major areas for parents and leaders of youth: media, faith, and culture and our need to question, engage, and understand what is going on around us and in our teenager's lives.

When it comes to media, it's no question that parents of teens grew up in a time without the technological advances kids now are surrounded by. Porn is accessible and easily distributed, ratings seem meaningless to movies and games, texting is a language to decipher and know, identity crisis, unhealthy coping, and desensitization to violence is at hand and still on the rise.

Ullman argues that we need to take our "ancient faith" and cultural realities into check, as well develop, strengthen, and share what is true and formidable where ever we are.

It's going to take more than drawing lines of good and bad, believing what is right without considerable question and practice. Take a chance and read what Ullman says and questions and consider the challenge of what is at risk when we don't.

Home Application

How to talk to your child about suicide:

- Don't dismiss their stress or feelings of loss
- show an communicate acceptance towards their feelings. Their feelings need to be acknowledged
- Ask about suicide directly if you are concerned it may be an issue. "Are you thinking about suicide?" They do not become more suicidal if they are asked about it (p. 147).

Practice silence and solitude:

- turn off your cell phone and media devices for a designated amount of time every day
- Journal every day (p. 229)

Sacrificial living:

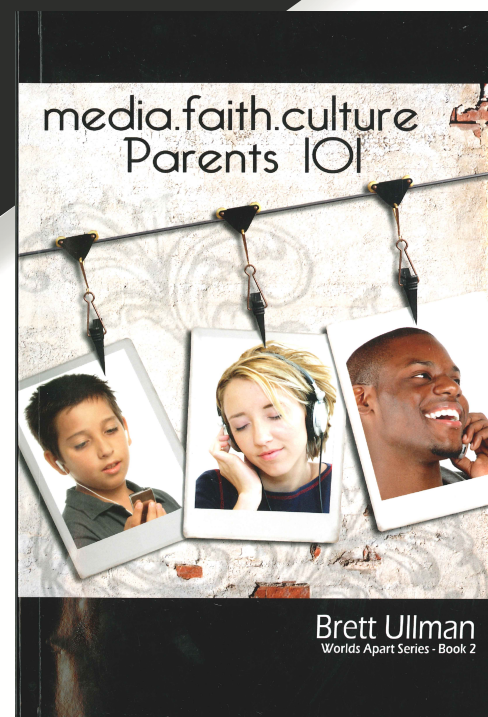
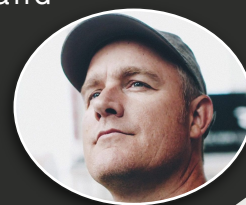
- find a cause that you believe in and start donating
- donate stuff you don't need or use (p. 241).

"... there are two types of people in the world – Those who self-injure, and Those who know someone who self-injures" (p. 144).

"How do we prepare ourselves to be agents of transformation through our world views? The answer lies in community... engaged and participates within society and culture... based on the New Testament church... centered on the very essence of who God is" (p. 207).

"This is my goal for this book, just as it is when I speak – question everything in your life and look for what has light and truth and what has darkness and lies" (p. 7).

"I challenge you to a life that reflects the love of Christ and to live based on a strong biblical worldview" (p. 302).



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