



Dear Parent,

About four years ago my wife Kitty and I were at a discipleship conference in Chicago where Rob Rienow spoke about discipling our children. I'd been a missionary in Europe for a number of years so understood well Jesus' command to "go and make disciples of all nations." But listening to Rob was an important reminder and challenge about how critical and irreplaceable my place as a parent is in making disciples of those closest to me, my children. Rob points out that too often parents think they are fulfilling their roles as Christian parents by making sure their kids are at church, in Sunday school or in youth group. Pastors, staff and teachers are very important and have their place, but the person who has the greatest influence for Christ in a child's life is their parent. We invest a lot of time into our children to help them be good students, musicians or athletes, but are we doing as much to help them love Christ?

To encourage and help equip us as parents in the discipling of our children we've invited Rob Rienow to come to Oskaloosa March 30-31 for a Visionary Parenting work shop. He'll be with us Friday evening (6:30-9:00) and Saturday morning (9:00-12:30) at the Gateway Church of the Nazarene or at Fellowship Bible Church in Oskaloosa depending on the amount of people that will register. While the work shop is regularly offered at \$40/couple, this is our gift to the Oskaloosa community and so attendance will be free of charge. We would ask, though, that you register by calling the Fellowship Bible Church office or register on the church website (www.oskyfbc.org – click on the link for Visionary Parenting on the scrolling bar).

Probably the best way to describe the objective of the conference is in Rob's own words:

"God has entrusted you with children for a reason! The biblical purpose of parenting is to do all in our power to impress the hearts of our children with a love for God. The souls of our children are our most important Great Commission calling. We have created Visionary Parenting, along with a wide variety of other family resources, to encourage and equip you for this mission."

I've included Rob Rienow's bio to help you become a little more familiar with him. The Visionary Family website is also a helpful resource www.visionaryfam.com. And I'd encourage you to take a look at the YouTube video promo of Visionary Parenting <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0DLsXxOt39Y>. Rob is a very engaging speaker and has a gift to really cut to the heart of what matters most.

If you have any questions please feel free to call the church (672-2225) or e-mail me at rderonde@oskyfbc.org. If you want to promote this to others, we are in the process of making materials for distribution.

Serving Him with You,

Rodney De Ronde,
Fellowship Bible Church
www.oskyfbc.org

Rob Rienow's Bio

Rob married Amy in 1994 and they have been blessed with 6 children. His most important ministry is loving his wife and leading his children to know God and love Him. Rob's mom came to Christ shortly after he was born so he was blessed to be introduced to Jesus at an early age. His parents divorced when he was in high school and God used that painful time in his life to give him a heart for young people and families going through dark times. He attended Wheaton College, then completed an MA in theology at Wheaton College Graduate School, an MDiv from Trinity International Divinity School, and a Doctor of Ministry in Christian Leadership from Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary.

Rob's life dramatically changed in 2003. God brought him to a place of deep repentance over the fact that he was discipling other people's children, but not his own. He was a spiritual leader at church, but passive with his family. Through that time of repentance, God turned his heart to the ministry of his children and his wife. God then led He and Amy to launch Visionary Family Ministries, a ministry designed to inspire parents and grandparents to disciple their children, to help couples create mission driven-marriages, and equip churches to build Bible-driven ministries.

He served as Youth and Family Pastor at Wheaton Bible Church for 18 years. God has now called Rob and Amy to serve full-time as missionaries through Visionary Family Ministries. Their mission is to build the church through a global reformation of family discipleship. He shares the biblical message of family discipleship at national and international conferences for parents, couples, and church leaders.

He is the author of the books "God's Grand Vision for the Home" (Awana), "Visionary Parenting" (Randall House), and "When They Turn Away: Drawing Your Adult Child Back to Christ" (Kregel). He and Amy also wrote "Visionary Marriage" (Randall House) to help couples capture a compelling, biblical vision for their life together. The Rienow family lives in Wheaton, IL.



Rob and his family