

CULTURE THREE WAYS

We all know that premarital sex is not part of God's design and plan. Neither is the breakdown of the family, or premarital pregnancy, or fatherlessness. Even so, these things are happening all around us, and our response must be balanced. So how do we respond to "not God's best"?

We're called to be prophetic, preventive, and redemptive. As prophets, we proclaim the unchanging truths of God's Word in the midst of these situations. We're preventive when we raise awareness around the issues, steering kids toward God-honoring decisions. But we fail miserably when our response to failure is to shun, condemn, or punish instead of bringing redemptive force into the situation. A redemptive balance is marked by grace, mercy, and love.