

# Parenting

Parenting has never been more difficult in our society. Social media, gender confusion, and instant gratification among other challenges make parenting extremely difficult. Many parents are struggling to know the proper way to parent their children, tossed amidst the sea of conflicting reports and books. If you are a parent seeking to raise your children to walk in righteousness and character, we hope you will take advantage of these resources.

Stay informed by going to Hill Country Marriage Ministry on the BAND App by clicking this URL link <http://band.us/@hillcountrymarriage>

## LIKE ARROWS – MAY 1 & 3, 2018

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When rebellion creeps into their family, Charlie and Alice realize their approach to raising children isn't working, and they start searching for answers. But is it too late? With help from Alex and Stephen Kendrick (known for films like **Fireproof** and **War Room**), FamilyLife has created a movie that is all about the power of a family. **LIKE ARROWS** tells the hope filled story of Charlie and Alice, who learn as they raise their four children that no matter what kind of challenges a family is facing, it's never too late for God to work.



**Like Arrows:** The Art of Parenting in theaters near you on May 1 & 3, 2018.

Please click on this link to watch the **LIKE ARROWS** movie trailer:

<http://links.familylife.mkt7839.com/ctt?kn=16&ms=MTI4NTk5ODAS1&r=MTI3NDk3NDMwNjY3S0&b=0&j=MTMOMDEwNzUyMwS2&mt=1&rt=0>

**LIKE ARROWS** highlights the release of the new eight part video series: FamilyLife's Art of Parenting™. Hill Country Fellowship will offer this new parenting class beginning in the Fall of 2018. It will offer real help for moms and dads in every age and stage of the parenting journey.

What started as a parenting resource will make its debut on the silver screen in May as FamilyLife launches its first full-length feature movie, *Like Arrows*.

The film will be shown as a two-day-only event on May 1 and 3 on more than 800 screens and in every state. To learn more about the movie, find out where it will be showing, and how to reserve tickets, go to [LikeArrowsMovie.com](http://LikeArrowsMovie.com).

The film centers on the joys and trials of parenting and the power of family to shape the next generation. More than just an entertaining movie, the goal of *Like Arrows* is to honestly show a couple journeying through every phase of parenting. The film opens with Alice telling her boyfriend Charlie she is pregnant. As they are married and begin growing their family, they face typical parenting struggles and become aware of their need to be intentional and to cling to God's blueprints for marriage and family.

"The parenting journey is both incredibly challenging and incredibly rewarding at the same time," says FamilyLife's Bob Lepine, who served as one of the executive producers for the project. "We wanted to take viewers on what we hope will be a very relatable journey. And in the process, we hope they'll be inspired to make their faith more core to how they function as a family. That's the goal."

The movie's title, *Like Arrows*, is drawn from one of the most family-centered passages in Scripture, Psalm 127:3-5:

*Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward. Like arrows in the hand of a warrior are the children of one's youth. Blessed is the man who fills his quiver with them!*

This passage refers to the fact that children are not just a blessing, but a responsibility. Parents are to raise the children God has given them and launch them with aim into the world, "like arrows in the hands of a mighty warrior."

### **The Art of Parenting®**

*Like Arrows* is part of a special FamilyLife initiative to equip parents. A new video curriculum, [FamilyLife's The Art of Parenting®](#), will be released at the same time as the film. It is FamilyLife's third major video release, after *The Art of Marriage®* and the men's resource *Stepping Up®*.

But a feature-length movie wasn't originally in the script. The goal was to create a continuing story that would unfold week to week as part of the new video curriculum.

As the storyline came together, Lepine and the FamilyLife team began to wonder what it would be like if the story was told in a single sitting. When all the elements were put together, it was clear the impact of the story was stronger when it was viewed as a whole.

The key was a good script and good directing. Alex and Stephen Kendrick (*Facing the Giants*, *Fireproof*, *Courageous*, *War Room*) recommended Kevin Peeples to serve as the film's director. He also collaborated on the script with Alex Kendrick and Bob Lepine. By the time the script was completed, Alex agreed to be cast in a featured role in the movie. *Like Arrows* also features the capable acting of Alan Powell (*The Song*, *Christmas in the Smokies*) and newcomer Micah Lynn Hanson. Together, they take viewers through the 50-year parenting journey as the principle characters.

“Those who have seen a preview of the film have told us that two themes really stand out,” Lepine says. “The first is that successful parenting involves intentionality. Our characters learn that moms and dads can’t be passive as parents.

“The second theme that has resonated with audiences is that no matter what issues you face in raising your children, it’s never too late to change course and follow God’s design. To keep the gospel central to all we do as parents.”

### **Help and hope**

The ultimate goal of the movie is not just to entertain or connect with viewers, but to point them to help and hope for their home and family. Both before and after the movie plays in theaters, audiences will be able to experience an exclusive feature about *Like Arrows* and parenting, featuring FamilyLife co-founders Dennis and Barbara Rainey, along with co-producers Lepine and the Kendrick brothers.

Dennis Rainey, co-founder of FamilyLife, would like the material to be available to parents everywhere and as soon as possible, since the need for help and hope is so great. “Our goal is to reach more than one million homes around the world over the next three years with practical, biblically anchored help for moms and dads as they raise the next generation.”

*For more information on Like Arrows, go to [LikeArrowsMovie.com](http://LikeArrowsMovie.com). Or watch the [teaser](#).*

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## THE ART OF PARENTING – SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

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While kids don't come with instructions, God's Word has plenty to say about training and launching children into adulthood. In the Art of Parenting eight-session small-group series, we'll help you "aim your child's heart toward God" with intentional, biblical instruction and Christ-centered plans. Each small-group session includes about 30 minutes of instruction on video and about 30 minutes of discussion among group members.

Cost: \$15 per person, includes workbook

Dates: Tuesdays, 8 Sessions, Sep 11<sup>th</sup> – Oct 30<sup>th</sup>

Meeting Time: 7:15 PM – 8:30 PM

Location: Hill Country Fellowship, ALS Area

Other: Free Childcare

More info: email [marriage@hcfburnet.org](mailto:marriage@hcfburnet.org) or call (512) 755-6924

