

Easter Maturity Agreement

By Jim Merhaut



Teen-Adult Maturity at Easter (T.A.M.E.) is an agreement made between a teen and a parent to keep both of them moving forward on the path to Christian maturity.

For

Teen Family

Season

Spring

Needed

Bible, T.A.M.E. worksheet (see last page), pens or pencils



by [Amourins](#)

Prepare in Advance (For the adult)

- Ponder this: If you want to gain more trust and respect from your teen, it is important to lead by example. When you want your teen to change in some way, demonstrate that you are willing to change, too.
- Mark your Bible at 1 Corinthians 15:20-22, 51-52, 58.
- Make a copy of the T.A.M.E. worksheet (see last page) for each person.

Activity Plan

1. When you and your teen are in a positive or pleasant frame of mind, invite him or her into a conversation. Discuss how growing up is a lifelong process and say that you would like to try something new to help each of you grow a little more during the Easter season.
2. Read 1 Corinthians 15:20-22, 51-52 together. Take turns telling what you think these verses mean. Discuss: When have you felt “alive in Christ”?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 15:58 together. Take turns telling what you think this verse means. Discuss: What hope does the apostle Paul give in these words?
4. Comment that God’s Easter gifts of forgiveness and never-ending love will bless your efforts to change and grow. Work together to complete the T.A.M.E. worksheet.
5. Close your conversation with prayer, using the following words or your own:

Merciful God, give us the gift of faith in your Easter promises and open our hearts and minds to grow and change in ways that make us more like Christ. Forgive us when we fall short of the mark, and remind us that your love is never-ending. Amen.

1 Corinthians 15:20-22, 51-52, 58

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive ... ⁵¹ Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.

⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.



T.A.M.E. Teen-Adult Maturity at Easter

Developmental experts observe that the generations “grow each other up.” Parents and teens can help each other grow as children of God. Each generation has a unique perspective on maturity and can enlighten other generations about changes that may lead to continued growth on the parallel paths of human and Christian maturity.

Ground Rules:

1. All conversations during this activity will remain calm and pleasant.
2. No one will be asked to do something that goes against his or her core values.
3. Parent and teen commit to accomplishing the agreed-upon changes.

T.A.M.E. Steps:

1. **Teen:** Identify one thing about your parent you would like to see changed during this Easter season. Write it below. Tell your parent how you would feel if this change actually happened.
2. **Parent:** Identify one thing about your teen you would like to see changed during this Easter season. Write it below. Tell your teen how you would feel if this change actually happened.
3. Discuss the hoped-for changes. Both the parent and the teen have the right to veto a request if it seems unreasonable or if it requires one to go against a core personal value. Refine the hoped-for changes in Steps 1 and 2 until you both agree with them.
4. Clarify the details and expectations each of you has about these changes. For example, if the teen asks the parent to stop nagging about chores, the teen needs to clarify what nagging is by providing specific examples of the behavior and also needs to describe a more desirable behavior to replace the nagging. Continue discussing in this manner until both of you have a very clear idea of what is expected and how you will measure the progress of your efforts to change.
5. Check in with each other at the end of each day to evaluate your progress. Continue checking in for at least two weeks, so that the new behaviors become signs of new life in your relationship.

