

Hey parents of 7th-12th grade,

We just wrapped up our series called "Storm Watch".

The bottom lines learned:

- Even during the storms, God is in control.
- God may use storms to get your attention and draw you closer to Him.
- God can use the storms of life in ways we would never expect.

Home challenge:

In this series we talked about some of life's most challenging situations. Your child may be taking a look at his or her life in a new way, and this may provide an opportunity to learn something new about their world, about their story. Try to find some time over the next few weeks to get away with your child for a few hours. Go some place they enjoy being, and see if you can become a student of your child. Let them teach you about their experiences. You may find an opportunity to share with your child about a storm you went through, but first make their story a priority. Understanding your child will take intentional listening.

Chap Clark is professor of youth, family, and culture at Fuller Theological Seminary and the father of three grown children. Here is what Chap recently had to say about the importance of *understanding* in the life of parenting a teenager.

"To understand, as the most foundational of all parenting roles, is to make sure that your child knows that you are absolutely, unequivocally committed to working hard at taking seriously the reality of your child's life."

Please send me any stories that might encourage other parents. I can keep it anonymous.

Have a great weekend!

Casey