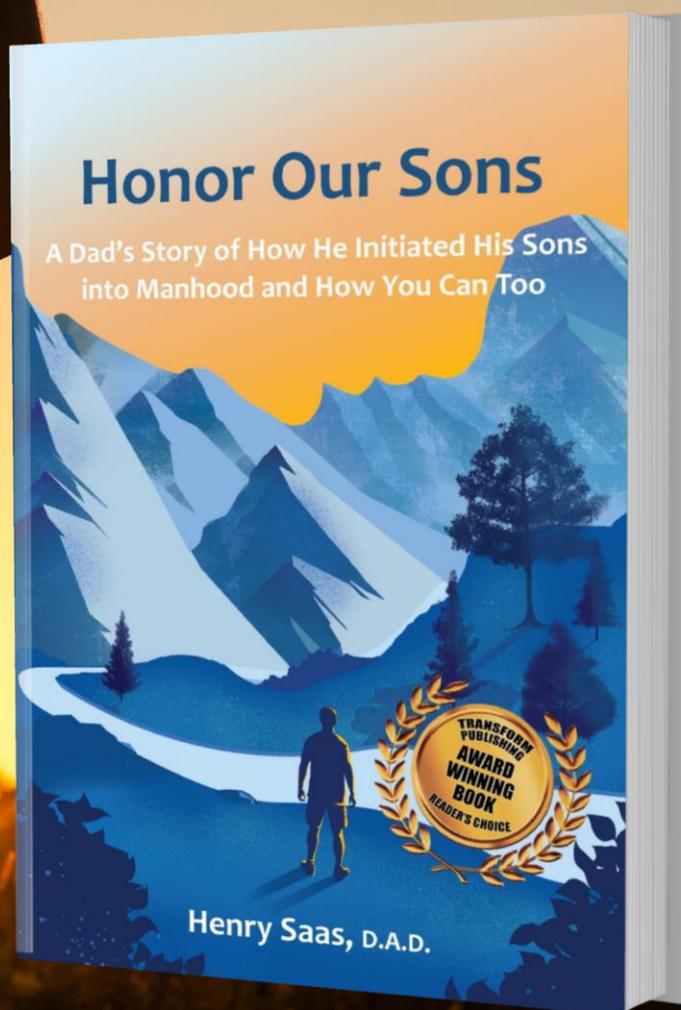


Media KIT

Author Bio
Book Bio
Testimonials
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Story Ideas for Reporters
Downloadable Author
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Author: Henry Saas
Category: Family Development
Print ISBN: 978-1-0879-2219-5
Ebook ISBN: 978-1-0879-2220-1
Publisher: Transform Publishing



Author Bio

Henry Saas didn't set out to be an author. Nor did he set his sights on being a Bursar, a Marketing Director, a professional fundraiser, or banker but he has been all of those things. His journey to becoming an author has been filled with years of dysfunction, hard work, and men who invested their time and energy into carving a path for him to mature masculinity.

Henry realized how important it was for him to grow up and become the kind of husband and father his family needed. His triplet sons were 12 ½ years old when Henry "woke up" and pursued his role as their father with intention. Committed to giving his sons something different than what he received as a teenager, Henry created an initiation and blessing weekend for his three boys.

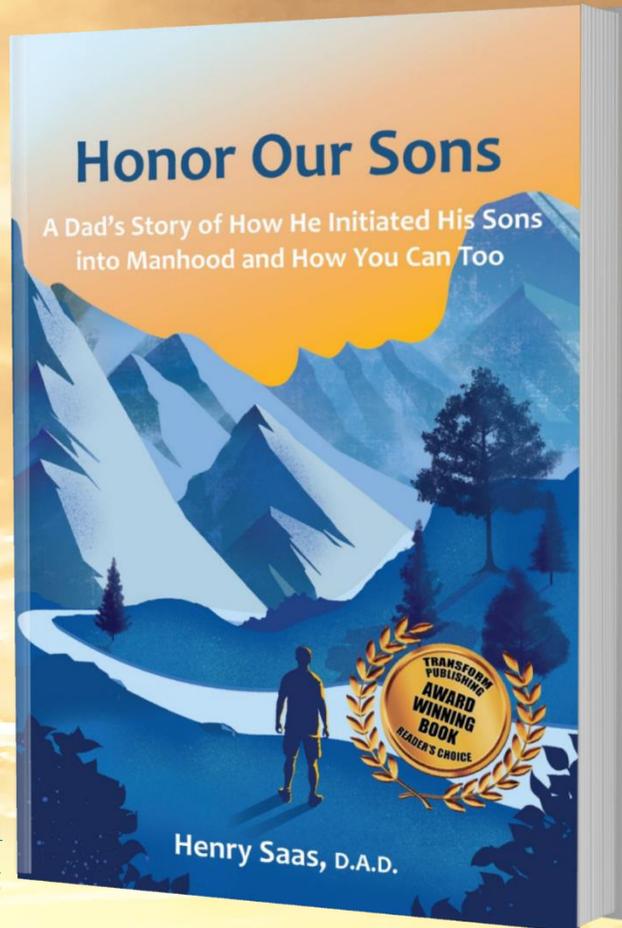
This ceremonial weekend, this rite of passage, marked in time when his sons transitioned from boy to man in the eyes of their parents. Since then, Henry has facilitated Men's Circles, mentored men one-on-one, volunteered as Director of Men's Ministries at his church, and taught Dr. Robert Lewis' 24-week program called *The Quest for Authentic Manhood*.

Henry's passion to grow boys into men is driven by his own story and the need for our society to honor and bless our children into adulthood.



Henry Saas

Book Bio



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This is a book about helping and honoring boys as they transition from adolescence to manhood through an initiation and blessing ceremony. My motivation for writing this book is twofold. First, I selfishly want to preserve the events herein for my children and grandchildren. Second, I am hopeful you will read this and be inspired to intentionally honor the growth of your boy(s) into manhood.

Keep in mind as you read this story, my definition of manhood may not be your definition and that's okay. There is plenty of room for a variety of manhood definitions. Above all, understand this is the rite of passage I chose for my sons, and do not expect you to copy it verbatim. You must explore what works best for you and your family. What will be meaningful to your son(s)? What resources do you need? What resources are easily available?

Finally, I have included supporting documentation at the end of this book. Hopefully, these documents will greatly assist you when it comes time for you to initiate and bless your boys. These are forms I used: a letter I wrote, checklists, surveys, etc. I encourage you not to get too bogged down in the details. Some are simply for historic preservation, while others may serve as catalysts for generating ideas on how to accomplish this without reinventing the wheel.

Testimonials

“In this book, Henry talks about how we must become aware of generational patterns so we can identify our tendencies and make intentional choices in light of parental influences. So many of us are *people pleasers*; and we aren’t even aware of it, nor the harm it does to our families. This book helps readers take a deeper look at themselves. This book is also a call to action, reminding fathers of their crucial role in the family and in society. I completely relate to Honor Our Sons! I especially like the way Henry talks about the importance of developing knowledge of *self* withing our communities and the need to be intentional about life. Overall, Henry helped me to learn about detrimental, widespread father absence. Thank you, Henry!”

~ Alice Benton, PsyD, Clinical Psychologist

“I can see how a man can find himself in Henry’s story, while being challenged by the things Henry teaches. I can see great benefits to Honor Our Sons because the content is strong! This book takes the reader deeper into the journey of growth in compassion by considering how a man’s inner strength can bless others, and how the lack of inner strength can wound others—even those closest to him. While reading this book, I got a clear sense of the author’s background, concerns, and hopes for the reader, and I felt drawn into story as I related my own experiences. I invite you to get to know Henry through Honor Our Sons and journey with him into loving your family with purpose and clarity.”

~ Darryl Handy, MDiv, Pastor

“Honor Our Sons chronicles one man’s journey to adulthood, and how he used the lessons he learned to help his sons walk the same path. At various points, he taught me to stand up for myself and others, to not worry about pleasing others, and to use difficult situations to work on myself. This book provides powerful examples of how becoming a mature man can affect your day-to-day life. These are exactly the kinds of lessons fathers should be teaching their sons. Honor Our Sons shines a spotlight on two messages that every man needs to hear:

1) *We need to grow up.* 2) *We can’t do it alone.*”

~ Ryan Snyder

“Henry painted a picture of what his behavior looked like pre and post his men’s weekend and intensive counseling sessions. He describes how his behavior changed within his marriage and family, and at work, while painting a picture of what it looks like to stand down and to stand up. Honor Our Sons has some really interesting data about the psychological and social impact of a father’s absence. Through learning about Henry’s uncertainty as a husband and father, I can clearly see why he is qualified to explore this topic with his readers. As a father myself, I am well aware of the uncertainty of raising a child. Henry does such a wonderful job normalizing this uncertainty and teaches a path forward for his readers.”

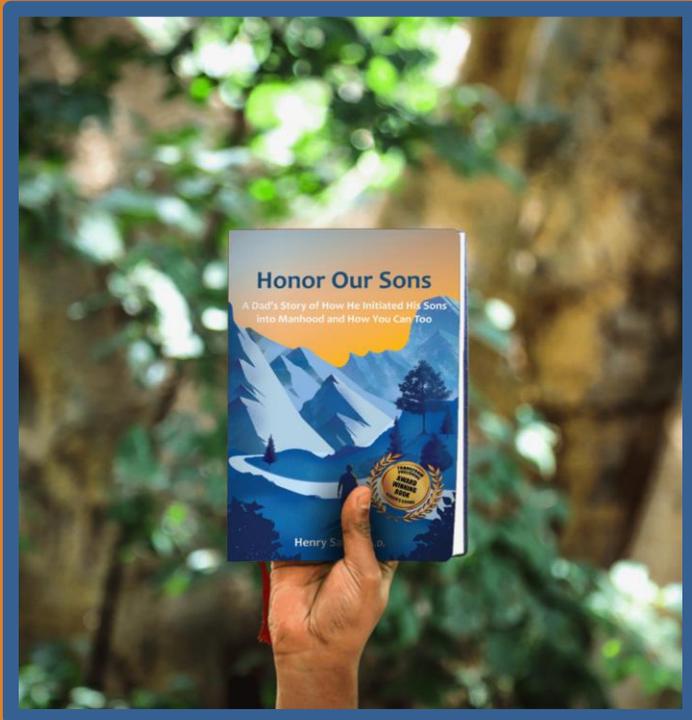
~ Brad Fittes, LPCC

“Honor Our Sons is a life-changing book for me, as a father of four kids. Even more though, because of the impact it directly had on me and the way I have learned to function more wisely, my wife and children have been greatly impacted. Although this book is titled, Honor Our Sons and speaks to boys and men, I have been able to apply what I have learned to build better relationships with my two daughters. This book will positively affect the dynamic of your relationships when you apply its teachings. I strongly recommend you read this book and apply what you learn.”

~ Douglas Rahrig

Target Audience

Who Should Read

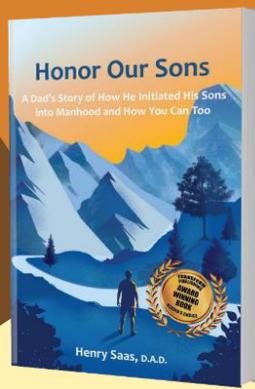


fathers
mothers
grandparents
expecting parents
relationship coaches
therapists
pastors

- Step into manhood
- Improve relationships with your kids
- Improve relationships with your spouse
- Build confidence
- Create intimacy



Book Benefits



Book

Excerpt

Chapter 4: Boys to Men in Today's Society

If the long-term goal is to successfully transition your son from a boy to a man, then you must be intentional. This means you must be awake. Your eyes must be open. You must be present and engaged. You must be one step ahead of your son. Understand, you have the experience that he doesn't have.

Look for opportunities to honor and bless your son with a mini rite of passage. For example, if he's going out on a date (with his first date being of the utmost importance), be sure to schedule time with him a day or two in advance for the two of you to talk. This will be the perfect time for you to express your love for him; tell him how proud you are of him; remind him that you're there to encourage him; answer his questions. It's also a good time to teach him that growing into a man involves taking on more responsibility; and taking someone out on a date and treating them with respect is just that, more responsibility.

Your son may feel embarrassed by this conversation, but I encourage you to push through and, if you want to, acknowledge any embarrassment. If you have a story in your own life where you felt embarrassed due to the subject matter, this would be a great time to share it with your son.

Discuss what he might expect, how the date might go, what challenges he might face, how to treat his date, and what to do if he needs support during the date. If you let your son go blindly into this date, he will surely flounder. He'll find friends to model himself after or he'll simply guess when it comes to knowing what to do, or not do. This is the beauty of being a transparent man. Too often our sons see us as perfect. Sometimes we, as dads, put ourselves on a pedestal making it below us to have these types of talks with our sons. Your job as a dad is to outfit your son with the wisdom and tools he needs to successfully complete a date.

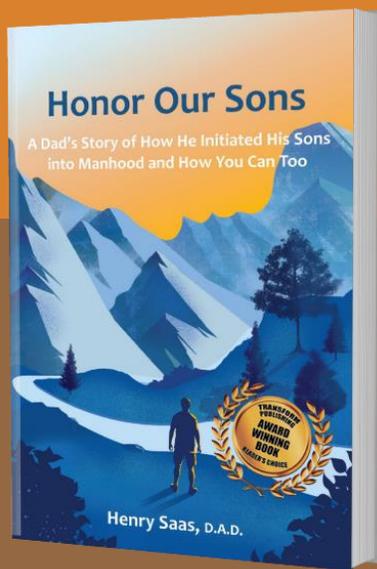
The goal is to build into your son by honoring, respecting, and teaching him. The template I described above for a date can be used for every mini rite of passage with a few modifications specific to each event. Other mini rites of passage can include his transition into high school, the earning of his temporary driver's license, his first time shaving, his first dance, first kiss, going off to college, going to his first full-time job, and more. Be ahead of the game. Anticipate what's coming his way.

Celebrating mini rites of passage doesn't have to be a big ordeal. It could be a fifteen-minute, or less, conversation just between the two of you. Maybe you will want to include his mother. It will be important to prep his mom before the conversation takes place. Some moms still want to "mother" their son during his mid to older teenage years; but doing so can hamper his growth into manhood.

It's critical for you, as a father, to get engaged and start behaving as if it matters, because it does! Did it matter how your dad engaged with you? Did he engage? Did he pour the best of himself into you? Did he teach you about life, or did you have to guess at it? Did he respect you along the way? How did you learn to be a man? Did you learn to be a man from your friends? Please, please, please, for all our sakes, don't shame your sons into manhood. Stop working too many hours. Put down your phone. Get off the computer. Quit drinking so much. Stop raging at your family. Stop isolating. Stop avoiding. Stop whatever you're doing that isn't productive, and that isn't geared toward building a strong foundation for your family. It's time for a change.

Interview Questions

1. What is the premise of your book, Honor Our Sons?
2. What did you do with your sons when they were 15 years old?
3. Why choose the age of 15 for this initiation?
4. Was this initiation and blessing ceremony the first time you honored your sons?
5. Where did you come up with this idea to initiate and bless your sons into manhood?
6. Why is it so important for our children to go through a rite of passage into adulthood?
7. Your book includes a few Biblical references, yet it doesn't seem fully focused on a man's relationship to God. How do you explain this?
8. In your book, you describe a challenging experience you had with one of your bosses. What happened and how did this situation get resolved, if it did?
9. I've heard you say how serious yet fun it is to sit back and watch the drama play out by someone else. What do you mean by this?
10. You challenged your sons to write and memorize a mission statement. Why?
11. How did your sons react to the prospect of the initiation ceremony?
12. How does this ceremony affect their daily lives today?
13. Have your sons mentioned wanting to initiate their sons, if and when they have sons?
14. Have you considered constructing a similar, but different, experience for daughters?
15. What are some ingredients for being a good husband?
16. What are some ingredients for being a good father?
17. How does being a good husband and father work together?
18. Explain why a wife should be submissive to her husband and what does that look like?
19. Did your wife agree with your plans to initiate your sons? Was it important for her to be onboard to do this rite of passage?
20. In the book, you don't encourage men to do the same rite of passage you did for your sons? Why not?



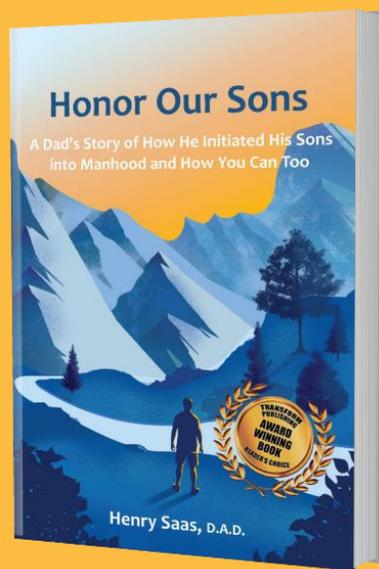
1. Describe the Men's Weekend.
2. How can I become a man with a backbone, a voice, and an opinion?
3. What could I be doing as a father to help my boys transition into men?
4. What are the 7 attributes you taught your sons?
5. What are the ingredients to being a good man?
6. How do women want to be treated?
7. What are the ingredients to being a good husband?
8. What are the ingredients to being a good father?
9. Describe what a Rite of Passage entails.
10. How did your journey being?
11. How does I Peter 5:6 apply to honoring your sons?
12. What are three things you must stop doing in order to raise your sons into a well-respected, self-confident, successful man?

**STORY IDEAS
For Reporters**

Downloadable Photos

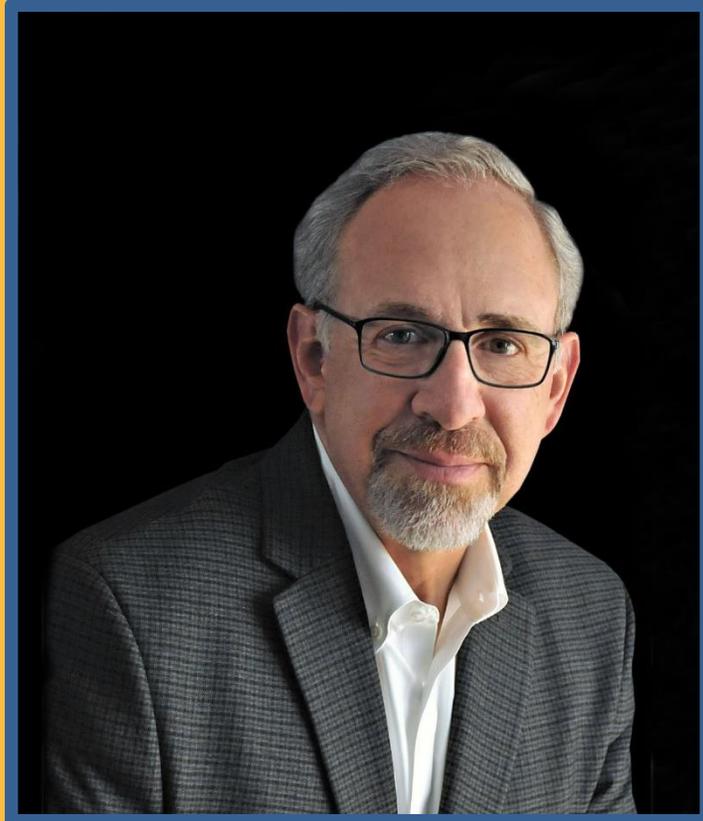


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