

DEVELOPMENTAL ASSET™ #14  
✘ Adult Role Models ✘

PARENT(S) AND OTHER ADULTS MODEL POSITIVE, RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR

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**Hebrews 13:7** – Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you.

Chat Time!

- Where have your pictures of what life should be come from?
- What sort of people are often role models?
- What kinds of lessons do they teach?
- Who are some of your role models?
- Are they all older? Same gender as you? Physically present in your life today?
- Who are your faith models? Friends? Family? Community members?
- What makes him/her a good role model to you?
- How did their ways of life draw you to them as a role model?
- Who are some key Biblical role models for you? Why? (Examples: Hebrews 11)
- For whom are you a role model for?
- As people observe you what do you hope they are learning?
- What is your life teaching others?
- When you think about being observed, that others may be following your example, how does this shape you? What do you hope to become?

So What?

As a role model of faith and life...  
...I hope ...



Candle Time

Assign everyone in the group one other member to pray for.  
Dear God, I admire in (name)  
(list several gifts, attributes, qualities or abilities that reflect faith and life can be observed by others.)



EXPLORE

Hebrews 11: (chapter citing the pillars of faith: Noah, Abraham, Moses, etc.)  
Luke 2:40-42 (Jesus raised with tradition and in wisdom)  
Philippians 4:8-9 ... whatever is true ... keep on doing these things...  
1 Timothy 4:12 ... set the believers an example... in love, in faith ...  
Titus 2:7-8 ...show yourself in all respects a model ... in your teaching ...  
1 Peter 5:2-3 ...tend to the flock of God that is in your charge ... eagerly ...



## ▣ *Leader Page* ▣

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### *Discussion Goal*

Anyone modeling faith nurtures those who watch

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### *Background*

People can only learn what they are taught, perhaps through experience, classroom lessons, or daily observation of the world. Life's first teachers are one's parents or the adults that care for the child. As that child grows up, more leaders will come into their life: more family members, friends, school teachers, church leaders, the media, parents of friends, political leaders, societal ideas, work colleagues, and many more. Then as the child develops their own core beliefs, which voices will they choose to follow? Who offered a sincere message to them; a message which is well-grounded, based on their well-being, and fruitful?

The only sure ground in life is found in Christ's Gospel truth. For most people, this is most strongly evident through adult role models living their faith through love. Parent(s) have the strongest influence in both positive and negative ways, but also other friends and adults model faith. Anyone offering their life as a faithful example for observers is a role model of faith. Hebrews 13:7 reminds anyone who is uncertain to look to those models as a guide towards the Word for truth, and for enactment of a life with trust in the redeeming God of humanity. This verse shows adult role models to be examples of truth in their teaching and their daily lives. This loving God provides them as a blessed promise of strength and pillar to look towards.

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### *Motivate*

Place complicated puzzle pieces in front of the participants. Tell them to assemble as much as they can in the next four minutes. They do not get to see what the picture on the box is. They most likely will appear apprehensive and look at you (the leader) like you are crazy. After a couple minutes ask, "Would this be easier if you had the picture?" tell them it CAN be done without an example, however the puzzle process will go much smoother with a model showing you how it looks when effective and complete as it was intended.

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