

Session Two – Providing Protection

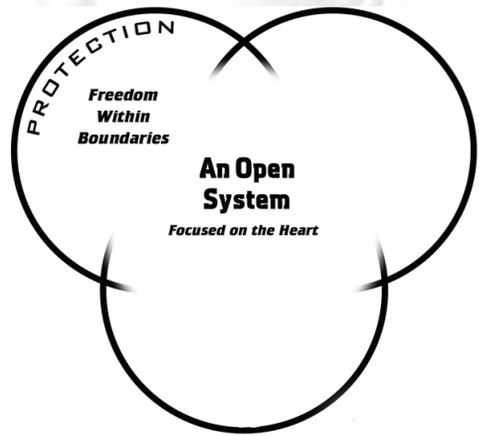
The Big Idea – Closed and Open Systems

QUICK TAKES

- What is a challenge your children are facing in which they need protection?
- What are some ways you can help provide protection in this?

Providing Protection in an Open System means providing...

- I. A Feeling of Belonging
- II. Appropriate Boundaries
- III. An Emotional Connection



Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. – Ephesians 6:4

Protection

GOING DEEPER

In what ways was the family you grew up in a closed system? An open system? How has this affected your own fathering?

How much protection did you feel as a child? Why? What positive or negative effects have you experienced from this?

Which of these do you feel like you are doing the best at as a father or grandfather: a feeling of belonging, appropriate boundaries, or an emotional connection? What are some ideas that have worked for you?

Which would you say is the most difficult for you? Why? Write down one idea you could implement in the next week.



Closed System	vs.	Open System
Emphasis on conformity		Emphasis on transformation
Fear		Safety
Control		Freedom within boundaries
Present performance		Future development
Playing a role		Authenticity
Emphasis on punishment		Emphasis on redemption
Surface interaction		True communication
Suspicion		Trust
Status quo		Growth and change
Pronouncements from on high		Questions and discussion
Uses people, "business relationship"		Intimacy and vulnerability