



# Providers

This is a non-competitive event.

## Goal

Providers is a non-competitive, year-round event that can be earned each year by male participants in grades 3-12. Female participants involved in the Keepers event may also choose one of these categories in which to participate each year.

## Purpose

To foster practical skills in typical areas of heading and maintaining a home and family.

Each category within the event will serve to encourage a specific skill that will help prepare male participants for their most basic and Biblical place as adults; that is, leading their homes as husbands and fathers. The event will also provide experience in practical home maintenance skills that will be valuable to all Christian male participants.

For more information on this event and others, check out the videos on the L2L website:

<https://www.lads2leaders.com/training/>

## Awards

Male participants in grades 3-12 can earn as many as three different awards annually. Unless otherwise indicated, the individual awards may be earned only once in a participant's L2L career. Each participant will receive an award for each of the categories chosen. The participant's name will be listed in the convention yearbook, and he will be recognized at Convention during the year-round events portion of the ceremony. **Boys may also choose a category from the Keepers event to count as one of their three categories.**

**Group leaders are to electronically verify each participant of this event in the registration system prior to the convention registration deadline.** ALL work must be completed prior to the convention registration deadline. If work is not completed, DO NOT register a person for this award, or deregister them if they were already registered.

## Ideas for Carrying it out

Participants should consult mentors when choosing and planning specific challenges in a given category to get the award. Mentors are encouraged to seek the guidance or actual participation of experts. For example, a visit to talk with a kind-hearted banker might be good for finances and the wisest men to mentor the family governance matters.

For those activities which involve some risk, mentors should either secure parental participation or obtain written parental consent. The local church leadership should be careful to only choose the most responsible and trained (certified where appropriate and possible) men to mentor the potentially dangerous challenges. All mentors should carefully review safety and operations manuals for power tools and potentially dangerous equipment and present them to the participants to review. These requirements are intended to ensure that participants are taught the need for caution and safety when working with potentially volatile, hazardous, or dangerous equipment and repairs.

Local church leaders should follow youth protection guidelines concerning mentoring. In order to protect the welfare of youth and the good name of mentors, avoid any private contact between youth and mentors. Mentoring should always be done in public.

Where inexpensive tools are necessary to do the challenges, parents (or others) are encouraged to fund the purchases so each participant can start his own tool collection. This will contribute to the retention of what he has learned.

### **Event Categories**

For each category listed below, participant will complete all of the items listed and have them approved by a mentor. Make special note of the categories that require adult/parental supervision.

#### **1. Spiritual leadership of my family.** *Looking forward to when you are a father:*

- a. Make a “daddy list” of 25 things you want to make sure your children know.
- b. Make a list of 15 things you will do as a dad, taking the lead as spiritual leader.
- c. Make a list of 10 creative ideas for an enjoyable, educational Bible time with your children.
- d. Direct a family Bible time for your family once each night for seven days.

#### **2. Basic marriage.**

- a. Attend a class (the mentor can decide the length and number of sessions) taught by a proven, competent family man on “How to love a wife.” Subjects will include things such as kindness, forgiveness, thoughtfulness, helping with housework, etc.
- b. Go to ten Christian wives and ask, “In the last two weeks, what is the nicest thing your husband did for you?” Meet with your mentor and others who are doing Providers and discuss what you’ve learned from the survey.
- c. Memorize and quote to your mentor: 1 Timothy 3:4-5, Ephesians 5:25-28.

#### **3. Basic child discipline.**

- a. Attend a class (the mentor can decide the length and number of sessions) taught by a proven, competent family man on “A good father’s discipline of his children.” Subjects should include:
  - When a child does wrong: when it’s appropriate to merely explain, when to scold, when to spank.
  - Limits to spanking to avoid abuse.
  - In what ways were your children different in reference to what kinds of discipline were effective?
  - What are some different kinds of discipline you used to rear your children (in accordance with God’s teaching)?
- b. Write a 1-2 page essay describing a punishment you received that you believe has helped you be a better, stronger man.
- c. Meet with a wise, elderly person in your congregation and write a brief summary of his/her answers to these questions:
  - In what ways were your children different in reference to what kinds of discipline were effective?
  - What are some different kinds of discipline you used to rear your children right?
  - If you could go back to your children’s early life with you, how would your discipline be different?

#### **4. Lawn mower use and maintenance.**

- a. Observe/participate in changing the oil and filter in a push mower or a riding mower.
- b. Demonstrate understanding of how to select proper height for blades on a lawn mower.
- c. Observe/participate in removal/changing/sharpening lawn mower blades.
- d. Demonstrate understanding of how and when to use fuel additives in a lawn mower, the differences between additives for lubrication and those which are for preserving fuel quality.
- e. Observe/participate in the skillful use of a weed eater, including how to replace the cutting line.
- f. Each student must volunteer to mow a widow’s lawn once without pay.
- g. Review the operations and safety manual for a lawn mower.

## 5. Basic plumbing.

- a. Learn how to turn off the water source at your house (where applicable).
- b. Observe/participate in the installation of a toilet kit.
- c. Observe/participate in the repair of a leaky, basic faucet.
- d. Observe/participate in cleaning a bathroom drain and re-aligning the stopper properly.
- e. Observe/participate in gluing four short pieces of PVC with joints.
- f. Students who are 14 and over are also required to observe/participate in “sweating” copper. Students must successfully solder three copper joints.
- g. Review a basic safety manual about performing simple household plumbing repairs.

## 6. Basic carpentry.

- a. All students must observe/participate in:
  - Fixing a squeaking hinge
  - Installing an interior door handle
  - Properly gluing and clamping a wood joint
  - In the basics of 2x4 framing: What it means to “transfer weight to the ground” and why it is important in house framing. They must also understand the meaning of “load bearing wall.”
- b. Participants who are 14 and over are also required to:
  - Learn how to safely use a circular saw, a drill, a hammer, a table saw, and a band saw. This includes reviewing a basic safety manual about working with these tools.
  - How to correctly set a post in concrete for a fence or mailbox.
  - Replace a window pane (an old, discarded window can be used for this challenge).
  - Replace a fiberglass shingle.

## 7. Basic painting.

- a. All students must:
  - Understand basic brush variations (width, angle vs. straight, bristles, etc.)
  - Understand priming and use of oil-based versus water-based paint
  - Observe/participate in the correct use of masking tape for painting, caulking, and in general wall preparation
  - Help an adult paint at least one wall.
- b. Participants 14 and over must also learn to use a home paint sprayer and how to properly “cut in” around moldings and trim with an angle brush.

## 8. Basic electrical.

- a. Develop an understanding of electrical power coming into the breaker box and then being fed throughout the house. Learn how to shut the power off on their own house (where applicable).
- b. Observe/participate in replacing a simple light switch and an outlet. Student must remove a switch or outlet from a wall, and install a new one successfully.
- c. Develop familiarity with an instrument for checking whether or not current is flowing into an outlet.
- d. Review a basic safety manual about performing simple household electrical repairs.

## 9. Basic family finances.

- a. Create a basic, sample family budget beginning with total income, then various typical expenses. Contribution to the Lord’s church should be at the top of expenditures.
- b. Balance a “practice” checking account.
- c. Engage in the imaginary process of:
  - Buying/financing a car from a dealer.
  - Buying a house. Understand the correlation between your credit scores and your interest rate.
  - Renting an apartment.
  - Selling a used car in your yard (Title, bill of sale, safe manner of payment, etc.).

- d. Learn basic family finance issues.
  - How to set up and maintain checking and savings accounts.
  - How mutual funds, stock market, IRA's work.
  - How risk in investments relates to potential growth.
  - Basic understanding of various, typical taxes for a family (Federal, State, property, sales, etc.).
  - Basic understanding of how to control/manage credit: loans, credit cards.

**10. Basic car maintenance.** (Widows could pay for materials and bring their cars to benefit from these lessons.)

- a. Observe/participate in changing the oil and filter in an automobile.
- b. Observe/participate in changing an air filter in an automobile.
- c. Find the proper tire pressure for a particular automobile, check the pressure and add/subtract air where necessary (Perhaps participants would be required to bring their own tire gauge).
- d. Wash and wax a car properly.
- e. Review a basic manual about auto maintenance and simple repairs.

**11. Basic gardening.**

- a. From a skilled gardener, learn:
  - When to plant.
  - How to properly prepare your soil. Learn unique qualities of the soil in your area and what fertilizers are commonly used.
  - The unique ways potatoes are planted, hills of squash are planted, onions are planted, trees are planted, etc.
- b. Plant a garden. For those students living where a traditional garden isn't possible, planting various vegetables in pots is an acceptable garden. Your mentor must visit your garden on planting day, sometime during the growing season, and at harvest time.
- c. Provide at least two vegetables for your family's meal one evening from your harvest.

**12. Basic home security.**

- a. Go with your mentor to a store which sells burglar alarm systems and get a basic understanding of how the most common ones work.
  - How are they installed? Can an average homeowner do it himself?
  - Will they operate on batteries if the electricity goes out?
  - How are their alarms triggered?
  - Make a good plan for remembering to replace batteries in smoke/carbon monoxide alarms (for example, replace them each year on the birthday of the head of the household).
- b. Learn the fundamentals of smoke alarms.
  - What kinds of alarms are available.
  - The ideal placement in the home.
  - How many are needed in a home.
  - Cost.
  - Maintenance required.
- c. Learn gun use and safety (This should never be done without adult supervision and written parental approval). If a highly-trained mentor is not available within the local congregation, it would be wise to arrange for formal training with a certified professional.
  - Good safety habits. How to safely store guns.
  - How to safely and properly clean a gun.
  - How to properly hold a gun when shooting.
  - How to properly use sights.
  - Gun laws in your given area. What to look for in a good place for target shooting.