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## Rick Johnson

Rick is the founder of Better Dads, a fathering skills program designed to inspire and equip men to be more engaged in the lives of their children. He develops and delivers inspirational training workshops and presentations such as, Raising Kids of Character, Dynamic Dads, and Speaking Your Man's Language across the country for organizations including businesses, churches, civic groups, social service agencies, hospitals, prisons, and schools. Rick is a graduate and certified trainer of the National Center for Fathering's Train the Trainer program.



At the request of a local school district, Rick also developed an extremely popular seminar for single mothers and other women raising boys entitled "Courageous Moms - Raising Boys to Become Good Men" that he presents throughout the United States.

Prior to becoming a full time author and speaker, Rick was a small business owner for 16 years, owning and operating an environmental engineering firm. He attended George Fox University, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Management and Organizational Leadership, and is currently completing the graduate studies program for a Masters in Educational Leadership at Concordia University. He is a veteran of the United States Navy, has served on the Board of Directors for several community and business associations, and coaches high school basketball in his spare time. He has been featured in many national publications and magazines. He has published the books, **That's My Son: How Moms Can Influence Boys to Become Men of Character** and **Better Dads Stronger Sons: How Fathers Can Guide Boys to Become Men of Character**, both by Revell Publishing. His new book, **The Man Whisperer—Speaking Your Man's Language to Bring Out His Best**, is due for release June 2008. Besides the U.S., Rick's books are sold in England, Canada, Australia, South Korea and Poland. Rick has appeared on over 100 radio programs and television shows around the United States. Rick and his wife Suzanne have two adult children and live in Gresham, Oregon.

## Better Dads - Mission Statement

We purpose to help men become better dads - and for them to encourage other dads - by equipping and inspiring men in various sized group workshops throughout this community and the world.

### **OUR GOALS**

We pursue three primary goals:

- \* To champion the role of responsible fatherhood by inspiring and equipping men to be more engaged in the lives of children.
- \* To introduce time-proven principles to the community in a non-threatening manner.
- \* To impact our culture positively by empowering men to resume a servant-based leadership role in their families, communities, and country.

### **OUR STYLE**

We believe that helping men become better dads will be accomplished primarily through relationship building and mentoring. We therefore develop relationships with men, touch their hearts, make ourselves available to them, and then offer help with humility, grace and integrity.

### **OUR SERVICES**

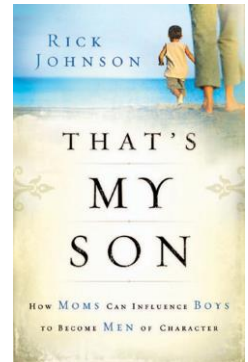
Most dads yearn to be better fathers. Our innovative, fast-moving, multi-media presentations use stories, examples, and small group interaction to sharpen a father's skills.

## Books by Rick Johnson

### **That's My Son**

*Revell Publishing*

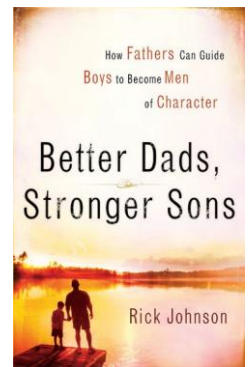
Have you ever been confused by what makes your son tick? Well, you're not alone. If boys are going to grow into men of integrity, they must learn loyalty, compassion, honor, courage, and perseverance as children. Recognizing the incredible value of a mother's influence on her son's life, Author and Speaker, Rick Johnson offers a practical, common-sense approach to help moms prepare for the challenges all mom's face.



### **Better Dads, Stronger Sons**

*Revell Publishing*

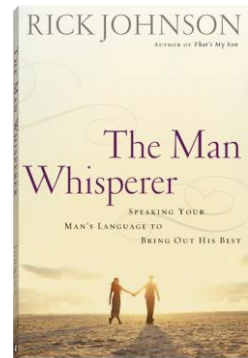
In this insightful and practical book, Rick Johnson shows how fathers can be equipped and inspired to be positive role models for their sons. He stresses the significance of male bonding, discipline, and spiritual leadership and reveals the top ten mistakes to avoid as a father.



### **The Man Whisperer** {due out Summer 08}

*Revell Publishing*

Can a woman influence her man to greatness? Author Rick Johnson says it is possible, but only when a woman discovers how to speak her man's language. Inside *The Man Whisperer*, you'll find ten tips for improving communication with your man. And you'll learn how your consistent, life-giving influence can inspire your man to heights he would have never achieved on his own.



## “Fathers, sons, and families will benefit...for generations!”

–Ron Nichols, Director of Training, National Center for Fathering

“A **must read** for every mom who longs to get inside the heart and mind of her little boy and who yearns for the wisdom to see that boy become a man of character.”

– Susan Alexander Yates best-selling author, 31 Days of Prayer For My Teen

“If the material about fatherhood and masculine love weren’t so important or timely, Rick Johnson would still be **able to capture the attention of an audience**...Mr. Johnson, with his straight talk, down home mannerism, captures the attention of the most hardened incarcerated father, as he converses more as a concerned friend than as a lecturer. But don’t take my word for it, just drop by at the end of any of Mr. Johnson’s presentations at the prison and see how many “new friends” he has soliciting more information about his work.”

– Kimm Hollingsworth, Transition Coordinator, Oregon State Correctional Institution

For 18 years I counseled and mentored many young men from broken homes and I know from first hand experience the deep wounds and longings of their hearts. Rick Johnson has developed a **powerfully effective message** and follow-up program aimed specifically at meeting the needs of single parents and especially fatherless youth. Rick has nailed the issues in so many ways and is seeing the results in changed lives and restored hearts.

– Bob Bailey, President, LifeChart Coaching LLC

“Rick’s seminars have been **transforming the lives** of mothers and grandmothers in our area. Hungry for help in raising their boys, women are lapping up new insights as Rick emboldens them to stand strong for their sons. One can almost hear the light bulbs popping on around the room as one after another women discover how their sons (and husbands) tick. I’d recommend Rick’s seminar to any woman who works with boys, whether they are her sons, grandsons, nephews, students, or neighbors.”

– Terry Murphy, Aglow International, NW Regional Training

## Seminars and Workshops

*{available in 30 min to 4 hour presentation formats}*

### **Dynamic Dads {1 to 3 hour lengths}**

Most dads yearn to be better fathers and have a more loving family. In this innovative, fast-moving, powerful, multimedia presentation, author Rick Johnson uses stories, examples, and small group interaction to sharpen a father's skills and understand his authentic masculinity. This workshop has been changing the lives of men across the country, giving them more confidence as fathers and better relationships with their children.

### **Courageous Moms {90min, 2 & 3 hour lengths}**

Good for you! You don't want to just raise your boy to become a man. You want him to be a good man. You want your boy to become a man of courage and integrity, with a good work ethic and a healthy understanding of love and responsibility. The world needs men like that, and there is no reason why your son cannot grow to be among the best of them.

### **Raising Kids of Character {2 hour length}**

Ahhh...the joys of raising children! Who knew this was such a difficult task? And with all the negative influences out there, how can parents raise kids with character? How can you raise them to grow up to be healthy, happy, and productive? You want your boy to become a man of courage and integrity, with a good work ethic and a healthy understanding of love and responsibility. You want your daughter to be an empowered, self-sufficient, fulfilled, loving woman of character who makes wise choices in her relationships. Does this just happen or does it take a specific plan while being aware of challenges that stand in the way?

### **Speaking Your Man's Language {1,2 & 3 hour lengths}**

What woman hasn't taken a look at her man and decided he could use some improvement? But there are some things you can change and some things you can't. This seminar helps women identify the strengths in their men and the things that hold them back. It shows women how they can use their considerable influence in positive ways—without nagging or laying on the guilt trips. With humor and plainspoken common sense, Rick Johnson helps women deal creatively with those annoying little habits while focusing on building his strong points.

### **Why Men Matter {1 hour length}**

It's tough being a man and a father today. It feels like you give and work and struggle, but there's never enough of you to go around. The pressures are unrelenting. And yet, you are so important that you are nearly irreplaceable in the lives of your children. Fatherhood is a privilege and with that privilege comes the power to impact lives. Exercised responsibly for good, that power can lead to huge blessings on you and your family.

Privilege, power, responsibility, sacrifice--they're all part of the same package. They all belong to a father. So be a man. Stand tall. Give your children an example of healthy masculinity that will survive down through the generations.