



ALERT Cadet

"Assisting fathers to win and keep the hearts of their 8 to 17-year-old sons"

Letter of Introduction

(for use in sharing the ALERT Cadet program with Pastors, Elder Boards, and Government Leaders)

Dear Sir or Madam,

There is an urgent need for men, both young and old, who are disciplined, show character and perseverance, and hold to the foundations of Biblical manhood. The Air Land Emergency Resource Team, or ALERT, was founded in 1994 to train young men, ages 17 and older in these areas as well as emergency response skills to meet the growing need of individuals, churches, and government leaders in crisis.

The ALERT Cadet program, founded in 1996, is a companion tool which fathers can use to help mold and shape their 8 to 17-year-old sons. Fathers participate together with their sons in activities to strengthen the father and son bond as well as to teach character, Bible study and memorization skills, practical life skills, and adventure skills. The goal of ALERT Cadet is to allow the son to give his heart to the father and for the father to gratefully receive the son's heart by providing appropriate protection, direction, and resources to the young man as he matures.

For a father and son to become ALERT Cadet members, they must successfully complete a *Basic Training Manual* at home. This 4-week booklet includes projects which focus on the ALERT Cadet motto, "Strong to Overcome," and define the ALERT Cadet Covenant of being swift to hear what is true, quick to honor authorities, strong to obey, courageous to be truthful, diligent to be neat, and genuine in gratefulness.

Once ALERT Cadet basic training is completed, fathers and sons join together in unit meetings with other like-minded fathers and sons on an approximately twice-monthly basis. Fathers and sons then begin work in the *Novice Handbook*, the first of seven handbooks, each containing approximately 36 weeks of material. The handbooks cover Scripture memory and study skills, physical training, home, church and community service projects, character training, outdoor adventure skills, disaster relief skills, and leadership skills. The regular meeting together of fathers and sons provides for accountability and positive interaction with those of like mind and heart.

As a pastor or elder you may desire to start an ALERT Cadet unit in your church to strengthen the father and son relationship. These men would also then be available to assist widows, orphans, or others in need in the church body, thus allowing you to be more successful in your ministry to the saints. Allowing the local unit to use the church facility for meetings would be a great blessing to those participating in the ALERT Cadet program.

As a community or governmental leader, you may be pleased to know that ALERT Cadet units regularly train in disaster deployment skills and stand ready to assist you in times of crisis. Some leaders have expressed concern that young men at a disaster site could pose a danger. ALERT Cadet fathers are always present with their 8 to 17-year-old sons when serving in a disaster situation. Both father and son have also received training in the incident command structure and know how to properly respond to governing authorities.

For additional information on the programs, please visit the ALERT Cadet website at www.alertcadet.org and the ALERT website at www.alertacademy.com.

May God richly bless you as you serve your congregation and the community.

Major Roger D. Farr
ALERT Cadet Commanding Officer