



GOD'S PLAN AND PURPOSE FOR MEN



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session one



BIBLICAL MANHOOD





01 Starting Perspectives

Why do we need _____?

- The community benefits from it
 - Younger men are drawn to it
 - Women feel safe and valued around it
 - Families thrive with it
 - Men need it
- An average American Sunday church service draws 39% men and 61% women.
(“U.S. Congregational Life Survey – Key Findings,” 29 October 2003, uscongregations.org/key.htm)
 - 13% of church-attending men are engaged in a bible study, discipleship, or small group on an ongoing basis.
(Annual State of the Church Report, Barna Research Group)
 - Churchgoers are more likely to express a higher level of satisfaction with life. Church involvement is the most accurate predictor of marital stability and happiness.
(“Why Religion Matters: The Impact of Religious Practice on Social Stability,” The Heritage Foundation Backgrounder, 1064, 25 January 1996, heritage.org)
 - 30% of men share personal feelings or problems with a friend on a weekly basis.
(American Perspectives Survey, May 2021)
 - 1 in 3 men would say they have 2 or less close friends.
(American Perspectives Survey, May 2021; Gallup, 1990)

True Biblical manhood is a _____ to communities, not a _____.

We all want to be _____ men, but many of us just don’t know how.

We cannot strive towards something that we cannot _____ .

Some lies men commonly believe

- I should know what to do, and therefore cannot ask for help.
 - I'm the only one who struggles with _____.
 - It is too late to fix the wrongs I have done in my life.
 - If I tell the truth about myself to others, they will reject me or distance from me.
 - Talking about hard and emotional things will force others to lose respect.
 - No one actually cares about me unless they get something in return.
 - If I mean well, that is good enough.
 - If I disengage and become passive, I can't screw it up.
 - People will think I am less of a Christian if they knew how little I know about the Bible or how little I pray.
-



02 God's Purpose for Men

Since the beginning of creation, God has given men a unique and distinct _____.

"Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.' So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.'"

Genesis 1:26-28a

To understand God's purpose for men, we need to answer a few questions first

- What is a man?
- Why was man created?
- How can men fulfill God's purposes?

03

What is a Man?

Man is the _____ of God to the world.

- This means we are designed to _____ the goodness, creativity, and character of God.
- Man is _____ creation to build, protect, steward, and help it to flourish.
- We have 2 choices in building God's world:
 - We can _____ good and evil for ourselves.
 - We can _____ in what God says is good and evil.

Man is a _____ being. We are made to be in _____ with God and other people, just as God is in relationship with Himself (the trinity) and His people.

- Since God has made us in His image, we _____ find our purpose apart from Him.
 - Though men often try, it is impossible for us to find lasting purpose through our achieving, vocations, attacking goals, intellectual adequacy, or moral performance.

04 Why Was Man Created?

To _____ God and _____ Him forever.

“Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

Isaiah 43:7

To give glory to God means to _____ who God is and to _____ Him as such.

To enjoy God, we must first _____ God.

We can only enjoy God as much as we follow His _____ and step into His _____ He has given us.

05 How Can Men Fulfill God’s Purposes?

Reject _____

Accept _____

Lead _____

Love _____

Yield to _____



06 Four Promises of the RALLY Manhood Journey

1. You will receive a clear definition of manhood that is both timeless and applicable to today.
2. You will increase in understanding of how to apply the Gospel to your family, to your community, and to your calling.
3. You will receive helpful insight and support from your table hosts.
4. You will have the opportunity to build new God-honoring friendships with other men.

We have a lot of obstacles from our culture and from the enemy in living out biblical manhood. We must submit to Christ because He provides life, while the enemy is trying to kill us. (Ephesians 6:11-17)

But the greatest threat facing biblical manhood today is not culture or a lack of church involvement, but it is a lack of submission to Christ and a lack of awareness of our constant need for God's grace.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How have you seen biblical manhood modeled to you? Did you have men in your life growing up who were men of God?
2. What are some of the implications of an absence of biblical manhood?
3. What are some expectations or pressures that you can feel from the culture we are in regarding being a man?
4. How is the RALLY acronym different from those expectations or pressures?

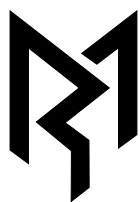
Pray for one another. That God would use the next 7 weeks to refine your manhood and draw you into closer friendships with the men at this table.



session two



GOD'S PURPOSE FOR MEN





01 Starting Perspectives

God's purpose for us is to _____ Him and _____ Him forever.

*"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."
1 Corinthians 10:31*

"Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made." Isaiah 43:7

Since God has made us in His image, we cannot find _____ apart from Him.

02 To Glorify God

Because of our sin, it is _____ to glorify God on our own.

Our natural bend is to live for _____. To take glory for ourselves, and to take responsibility for things that are ultimately the Lord's.

But because of Jesus's _____, and the _____ work of the Holy Spirit, we can now give glory back to God.

We can only give to God what He has first _____ us. So, we are only able to glorify God because He _____ glory first.

"What is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor. You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet." Psalm 8:4-6

Part of what it looks like to glorify God is to acknowledge God for who He is, and to praise and worship Him as such.

*"God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him."
John Piper, Desiring God*

03

To Enjoy Him Forever

To enjoy God, we must first _____ and _____ God.

“Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,”
1 Peter 1:8

The best way to know God and learn more about Him is in the _____.

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness”
2 Timothy 3:16

We also enjoy God by living in _____ with His people.

In the _____, Jesus has given us a million reasons to enjoy Him.

Because of Jesus’s perfect life, sacrificial death, and resurrection, we have:

- Eternal security in our salvation. (John 10:28-29)
- The righteousness of Jesus as our own. (2 Corinthians 5:21)
- Jesus Christ as our advocate. (1 John 2:1)
- Been set free from shame and condemnation from our sin. (Romans 8:1)
- An unshakeable joy and peace. (Romans 15:13)
- Direct access to God at all times. (Matthew 28:20)
- A community to be challenged, encouraged, and empowered by.
(Hebrews 10:24-25)
- The Holy Spirit living within us to point us to what is good and righteous
(Romans 8:11)
- A sure and steadfast future hope. (1 Peter 1:3-5)



04 How Jesus Exemplified Manhood

- ___eject Passivity
 - ___ccept Responsibility
 - ___ead Courageously
 - ___ove Sacrificially
 - ___ield to God's Word
-



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What about God makes Him worthy of glorifying and enjoying forever?
2. What are some of the things apart from Christ that you are tempted to find your purpose in?
3. Why are those things less satisfying than finding a purpose centered on Jesus?
4. Choose a time to meet up this week with your table and share testimonies.

Pray for one another, that you would see Jesus as better than anything you can gain in life or that you will lose in death.



session three



REJECT PASSIVITY





01 Defining Passivity

Passivity is the absence of engaging in something _____, that we know we should engage in.

“So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.”

James 4:17

A biblical man always takes the _____. Both with himself and with the people God has placed around him.

02 Adam’s Example of Passivity

“Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, ‘Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’”² And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden,³ but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.”⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸ And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.⁹ But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?”¹⁰ And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.”¹¹ He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”¹² The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.”¹³ Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

Genesis 3:1-13

Adam _____ the first to eat the fruit, and we are told later that Adam was not even deceived.

“And Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.”

1 Timothy 2:14

Yet, we are also told that sin entered the world through _____. (Romans 5:12-21)

How is it that Adam was not deceived and he ate the fruit second, yet was considered the first sinner?

Because Adam was _____ in the Garden.

Thankfully, the Bible speaks of a new and better _____. (Romans 5:14)

03

Jesus is the Ultimate Example of Rejecting Passivity.

“Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”

Philippians 2:5-8

Through Adam’s _____, humanity received sin. Through Jesus _____, humanity received righteousness.

We can only reject passivity as well as we look to Jesus. As long as we look to Adam (our own desires, wants, and definition of good/evil) we will consistently find ourselves being passive.



04 Reject Passivity in Family

God has called men to set the spiritual tone for his family and to be the primary disciple maker in the home. (Ephesians 5:25-28)

Rejecting Passivity can look like

- Prioritizing spending time with Jesus regularly in His Word.
- Being intentional in making your wife feel special and loved.
- Taking initiative to disciple and lead your wife and kids spiritually.
- Fighting to not allow conflict to sit, often by being the first to apologize.
- Being present in your kids' lives, hobbies, and activities.
- Being emotionally present for your wife and children to share hard things.
- Knowing that your family is your primary ministry.

03 Reject Passivity in Community

Community: Both our friendships with others, as well as the geographical places that God has placed us.

God has designed men to be a _____ to their community, not a burden.

Our communities _____ men who reject passivity to love others well.

Rejecting Passivity can look like

- Acknowledging that you need men in your life to flourish as God has designed you to.
- Getting over the hump of only talking about surface level things and regularly processing life with other men.
- Regularly confessing sin and asking for accountability from the men in your life.
- Being an active part of the community (consistently present at kids games or events, serving in the community, sitting on councils, etc.)
- Being on the lookout for new people in your community that you could initiate meals with.

If you don't know how God has called you to engage in community, step one is to join or lead a discipleship group.



04 Reject Passivity in Calling

Calling: Your vocation, as well as any area you feel that God has called you to engage heavily in.

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters”

Colossians 3:23

In Jesus, nothing is a _____. You are at your place of vocation on purpose, for a purpose.

We spend _____ time with the people we work with than our families. So how we interact with people and work itself matters.

Rejecting Passivity can look like

- Working hard, as for the Lord, not human masters.
- Working with integrity.
- Using our workplaces as ministry fields.
- Leaving work at work.
- Seeing your calling as a gift from God to provide for you and your family.

Transformational Truths

You cannot reject passivity consistently by sheer _____.

You will only reject passivity as well as you look to _____, the one who rejected passivity perfectly for a lifetime 2,000 years ago.

Why reject passivity? Jesus is worthy of being _____ and _____ by every single person.

The more we reject passivity, the more we get to be a part of pointing people to the joy it is to know and treasure Christ for a lifetime.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Genesis 3:1-13

1. How would you define passivity?
2. Where do you see Adam being passive in these verses?
3. What are some areas you would say you have been passive in?
4. What do you think it would look like to reject passivity in those areas?

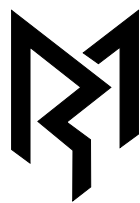
Pray for one another. That the Lord would strengthen you to reject passivity and to be able to love Jesus without distraction.



session four



ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY





01 Defining Accepting Responsibility

To Accept Responsibility is to _____ and _____ in the responsibilities God has given us in our respective season of life.

*“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men”
Colossians 3:23*

A biblical man _____. Both for his shortcomings, and for what God has asked him to be responsible for.

Because of our sin and passivity, our natural bend is to _____ responsibility, instead of accepting responsibility.

02 Peter’s Example of Accepting Responsibility

“¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.”¹⁶ He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Tend my sheep.”¹⁷ He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.”¹⁸ Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.”¹⁹ (This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, “Follow me.”

John 21:15-19

Though we will fight to reject passivity and accept responsibility, we will _____ perfectly do it, no matter how hard we try.

Though Peter does not _____ reject passivity, Jesus still invites him to follow Him and be the rock on which the church is built.

Peter accepts responsibility for his sin and trusts Jesus for forgiveness.

When Peter sees Jesus after his denial of him, he runs _____ Jesus, not away from Him.

It is not our _____ that qualifies us to be used by God, but it is our _____ for our sin.

“And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

Matthew 16:18-19

When God gives Peter a new call to be the rock the church is to be built on, Peter accepts responsibility, even to the point of death.

03 Jesus is the Ultimate Example of Accepting Responsibility.

“And he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, and knelt down and prayed, saying, “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.” And there appeared to him an angel from heaven, strengthening him. And being in agony he prayed more earnestly; and his sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.”

Luke 22:41-44

Jesus perfectly accepted the responsibility to serve and lay down His life for people who do not deserve it.



04 Accept Responsibility in Family

The primary responsibility all biblical men must accept is a _____ with Jesus.

The second responsibility men must accept is to _____ their family.
First with their _____, and second with their _____.
(Ephesians 5:22-27 and Deuteronomy 6:5-7)

Accepting Responsibility can look like

- Leading your family spiritually, even from a place of weakness or inadequacy.
- Honoring and pursuing your wife with intentionality.
- Providing spiritually, financially, and emotional/physical safety to your family.
- Being fully present and available.

Accept Responsibility in Community

God has designed men to be a _____ to their community, not a burden.

Communities flourish when _____ accept responsibility.

Accepting Responsibility can look like

- Acknowledging that you need men in your life to flourish as God has designed you to.
- Engaging in the local church body, not just simply dipping in and out of a service on a Sunday.
- Being fully known by other men, including the depth of your sin, and allowing them to point you to Jesus.
- Being proactive to get to know your neighbors and build relationships centered around Jesus with them.
- Never graduating from taking steps of faith to bring the Gospel to new people in your respective community.

05

Accept Responsibility in Calling

The respective calling God has given you is for His _____.

“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”
1 Corinthians 10:31

How you do anything is how you do everything. The way in which you work is an _____ to others.

Accepting Responsibility can look like

- Working diligently and with integrity, knowing that the manner in which we work reflects the glory of Jesus.
- Honoring your bosses, even if they feel or act dishonorable.
- Abstaining from gossip or unkind language towards other customers, co-workers, or bosses.
- Viewing your workplace as a mission field; a space where the Gospel is talked about and brought to new people.
- Viewing our callings and jobs as a gift from God.



06 Transformational Truths

Your natural bend is to _____ accept responsibility.

We think denying responsibility abdicates us from the opportunity of trying and _____, something most of us men fear.

In the Gospel, Jesus cares less about our definition of “success” and “failure”, and more about our _____ on and _____ in Him.

The only markers of “success” in the Christian life are _____, _____ and _____.

Why accept responsibility? Families flourish, communities flourish, and workplaces flourish when men accept responsibility and lead with courage, humility, compassion, and confidence.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Luke 22:54-62 and John 21:7,15-19.

1. What are some key differences between when Peter did not reject passivity, and when Peter did accept responsibility?
2. Why does it matter that men accept responsibility? What are some of the negatives and positives of when men do and don't accept responsibility?
3. What are the things God has asked you to take responsibility for? How do you feel like you are doing in those areas of responsibility?
4. When we don't accept responsibility, what are the lies we believe about ourselves and about God?
5. Share of a time you were positively impacted by another man who accepted responsibility?

Pray for one another. That the Lord would give you the power and steadfastness to accept the respective responsibilities he has given you.



session five



LEAD COURAGEOUSLY





01 Defining Leading Courageously

Leadership is _____. Everyone has influence with at least one person.

Therefore, everyone is a _____ in some capacity.

Leading courageously is to use your circles of influence to _____
to Jesus through integrity, boldness, and meekness.

God has called all men to lead with courage.

Sometimes leading others includes making unpopular decisions based on
_____, which requires courage.

02 Joshua's Example of Courageous Leadership

"⁵ No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you.⁶ Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them.⁷ Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go.⁸ This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.⁹ Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:5-9

We can lead with courage not because of our own competency, but rather because of _____ competency through us.

Joshua was able to lead courageously because the Lord was _____ .

Joshua's leadership success was based on whether he _____ the Word of God or not.

- Jericho: Joshua and the Israelites listened to God's Word and successfully defeated Jericho. (Joshua 6)
- Ai: Joshua and the Israelites did not listen to God's Word, and therefore were defeated by Ai (Joshua 7). They would later defeat Ai once they returned to following the Word of the Lord. (Joshua 8)

It takes _____ to follow the Word of the Lord, especially when we lead others.

We too can lead with courage because we have _____ with us at all times (Matthew 28:20), and we have the fullness of God's Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Our leadership should be to please _____ and not men.

"For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ."
Galatians 1:10



03 Jesus is the Ultimate Example of Leading Courageously.

“The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him. And this was why the Jews were persecuting Jesus, because he was doing these things on the Sabbath. But Jesus answered them, “My Father is working until now, and I am working.” This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.”

John 5:15-18

Jesus never _____ from an opportunity to share good news with people.

Jesus consistently pointed others to the _____, regardless of whether it pleased them or not.

04 Lead Courageously in Family

The most important people we lead is our family.

The leadership of the father affects the spiritual health of the family more than any other person.

Leading Courageously can look like

- Opening the bible and praying with your wife and kids, whether you “feel” like it or not.
- Sharing your weakness/sin with your wife and kids.
- Initiating Gospel-centered reconciliation anytime there is conflict.
- Telling your wife and kids that you are proud of them and love them.
- Caring more about your kids’ relationship with Jesus than “success” in their extracurricular activities.

05 Lead Courageously in Community

The healthiest, most _____ communities, are grounded in men who lead with courage.

One of the _____ things we can do as men is to isolate ourselves from other men who can speak into our lives.

Leading Courageously can look like

- Multiplying your life into other men, and allowing others to do the same to you. (Discipleship).
- Taking initiative with neighbors and people within your community to get to know them, and share the Gospel with them.
- Being vulnerable and admitting mistakes with other people.
- Approaching people with differences/disagreements with humility and honor.
- Being men of our word.

06 Lead Courageously in Calling

We get to use our _____ to point others to Christ.

Oftentimes men find their _____ in their vocation, we get to lead courageously by presenting a better identity.

Leading Courageously can look like

- Building relationships with coworkers outside of work.
- Honoring coworkers and bosses by not perpetuating gossip and negative talk about others.
- Working with integrity, discipline, consistency, and grace.
- Communicating clearly and with grace to others.
- Being a consistent source of encouragement and affirmation in your spheres of influence.



07 Transformational Truths

When we lead with courage, it shows other people _____.

“Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.”

Acts 4:13

Our primary purpose is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

The way we lead others is an _____ to a world that sees a lot of poor and unbiblical leadership.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Joshua 1:5-9.

1. God calls Joshua to be strong and courageous. What reasons does God give Joshua to be strong and courageous as he leads?
2. Why does it matter that men accept responsibility? What are some of the negatives and positives of when men do and don't accept responsibility?
3. God commands Joshua to not depart from "The Book of the Law". When you look at your family, community, and calling, what does it practically look like for you to not depart from God's Word in your leadership?
4. Reflect on the leaders that have most impacted you in your life. What was true about their character and leadership?
5. What is one action step you can take to better lead with courage in your circles of influence?

Pray for one another. That God would give you courage and confidence in your leadership that is based in His presence, and not your competency.



session six



LOVE SACRIFICIALLY





01 Defining Loving Sacrificially

To Love Sacrificially is to humbly serve others for _____ benefit and God's glory.

Loving Sacrificially often includes _____ others' needs above our own.

We can only sacrificially love others as best as we look to the ultimate sacrifice of love, _____ death.

02 Moses's example of Loving Sacrificially

"And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them.¹⁰ Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"¹² He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

Exodus 3:9-12

Moses _____ the comfortable new life he had created to answer the call from God to deliver His people from Egypt.

Moses sacrificed his comfort, plans, and desires out of love for God and love of God's people.

God tells Moses that he can make this sacrifice because God will be _____ Moses as he goes.

Moses' act of sacrificial love would lead to the _____ of millions of God's people out from slavery in Egypt.

Moses continually sacrificed for a group of people who were often unappreciative and complaining.

03

Jesus is the Ultimate Example of Sacrificial Love

“Who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”

Phillipians 2:6-8

Jesus sacrificed His divinity and _____ to come to earth as a human.

Jesus _____ to be worshiped on earth. Instead He was beaten, mocked, scorned, and crucified by the very people He came to save.

Jesus sacrificed His right to be _____ and instead served and loved us.

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Mark 10:45

04

Sacrificial Love in Family

We get the _____ of exemplifying what it looks like to sacrificially love to our family.

Our family should get the _____ of us, not just the leftovers of our time, energy, and affection.

“Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.”

Ephesians 5:25-27



Sacrificially Loving can look like

- Saying no to some things in order to allow yourself to be present with your family.
- Putting your family's needs before your own.
- Investing your time, energy, and resources into your family before anyone or anything else.
- Discipling your family, even when you don't feel like it or feel inadequate.
- Making decisions for the family in light of what helps them grow, learn, and experience Jesus best. And not in light of what we want.

05 Sacrificial Love in Community

Our communities need men who exemplify _____ not through abusing their power and influence, but through sacrificially loving others.

Our friendships should be marked by _____ love.

"Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."

Romans 12:10

"Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."

John 15:13

Sacrificially Loving can look like

- Sacrificing your free time and energy to pour into other people through discipleship and meaningful friendships.
- Giving financially or with your time to mission partners for the advancement of the Gospel.
- Being available and willing to help and serve your community.
- Inviting new people into your community and/or friend groups who are currently unengaged from community.

06 Sacrificial Love in Calling

Men oftentimes view their vocations as a way to climb a ladder at all _____.

We should view our work as an opportunity to serve God by honoring Him with our work ethic; as well as putting the skills, talents, and passions He has blessed us with on full display.

A proper work-life balance allows us to sacrificially love by _____ the needs and desires of the family over our personal desires.

“If our identity is in our work, rather than Christ, success will go to our heads, and failure will go to our hearts.”

Tim Keller

Our callings are a _____ from God, therefore we can use it to sacrificially love others instead of using it for our own selfish gain.

Sacrificially Loving can look like

- Prioritizing people over personal gain.
- Taking interest in coworkers’ lives, stories, and interests; even if they are different from yours.
- Publicly celebrating others’ achievements and accomplishments.
- Being quick to both claim rightful mistakes and to dish out credit.
- Abstaining from participating in a negative/bitter workplace culture.



07 Transformational Truths

We can only love sacrificially as best as we look to the one who perfectly exemplified sacrificial love in Jesus.

The more we see Jesus as wholly _____ and worthy of our worship, the more we will want to reflect Him by sacrificially loving others.

Jesus chose to use His infinite _____ not for entitlement on this earth, but to sacrificially love and serve others.

“For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Mark 10:45



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read John 15:8-17

1. Jesus commands us in those verses to “love one another as I have loved you”. How has Jesus loved you? What does it practically look like to love others in that way in your family, community, and calling?
2. What are some of the reasons that we don’t naturally want to always love others sacrificially?
3. Think about someone who has shown you sacrificial love. What did they sacrifice to love you?
4. How do you feel like you are honestly doing at loving sacrificially the people God has placed in your life?
5. What is an action step you may be able to take this week to show sacrificial love to the people God has placed in your life?

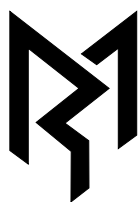
Pray for one another. That God would make the sacrificial love of Jesus freshly good news to you this week, and would give you the strength and humility to sacrificially love others as well.



session seven



YIELDS TO GOD'S WORD





01 Defining Yielding to God's Word

To yield to God's Word is to take God's Word as your _____ source of truth/wisdom, and live it out.

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Yielding to God's Word also means to _____ what God says is true about Himself and what God says is true about you.

Yielding to God's Word involves _____ to God's authority and allowing His Word to trump our emotions.

02 Joseph's Example of Yielding to God's Word

¹⁵ When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶ So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you."' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰ As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹ So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them."

Genesis 50:15-21

Joseph yielded to God's Word by _____ that the bad things that happened to him would ultimately be for God's glory and his good.

Joseph had the power to show retribution towards his brothers, but instead dealt graciously and kindly with them.

Joseph _____ to the promises of God, despite his circumstances.

03 Jesus is the Ultimate Example of Yielding to God's Word

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 5:17-20

Jesus did not abolish the Old Testament, but He _____ it.

Jesus both _____ the Old Testament, and _____ the New Testament.

Jesus yielded to God's Word to the point of _____, knowing that through His death He would _____ God's glory and it would be for our eternal good.



04 Yielding to God's Word in Family

Your family's primary authority should be the _____, not you.

The better your family yields to God's Word, the healthier and more joy-filled your family will be.

"In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil."

Proverbs 3:6-7

Yielding to God's Word can look like

- Ensuring that your family can use and trust the bible with confidence.
- Looking to the Bible before your own wisdom on family matters and conflict.
- Caring for your wife spiritually and encouraging her to be in community with other women.
- Praying with your family out loud, knowing that prayer re-centers our hearts on God and not ourselves.

05

Yielding to God's Word in Community

Your community of friends should not be solely focused on hobbies/interests, but on God and His role in your lives.

God has given us other men to do life with to reorient us to the person and work of Jesus on a continual basis.

Yielding to God's Word can look like

- Prioritizing being in community with other men, knowing that it is for your good and God's glory. (Hebrews 10:24-25)
- Ensuring that your friendships are full of meaningful conversations about God, and not simply surface level topics.
- Being purposeful with the people God has placed around you, knowing that God puts you in places on purpose and for a purpose (that they may know and love Him).
- Regularly confessing sin with other men. (James 5:16)

06

Yielding to God's Word in Calling

Our callings and vocations are one of the easiest spaces for us to exclude the Word of God in.

Your calling is not a distraction from serving God. It is one of the primary spaces that we bring the Word of God into.



Yielding to God's Word can look like

- Looking to the Bible and God's wisdom when making hard or big decisions at work.
- Trusting that your identity is what God says about you in His Word, not in your vocational performance.
- Beginning your day in God's Word so that when you enter your work day you have already spent time with Jesus.
- Using your lunch break to spend time in God's Word as a mid-day "reset"
- Gathering coworkers who share an interest in learning more about the Bible together for a bible study or discipleship.

07

Transformational Truths

We have something Joseph never had, the Holy Spirit, to point our heart and thoughts to the Word of God.

"When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come."

John 16:13

Everything we are told in the Bible is ultimately for God's glory, and for our good.

"For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen."

Romans 11:36

God's Word is an anchor for us in a life that is often unpredictable and uncertain.

"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord and on his law he meditates day and night."

Psalms 1:1-2



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean to yield to God's Word?
2. How often would you say you read or think about God's Word?
3. What are some distractions that you commonly run into when trying to study and be in God's Word?
4. Why is the Bible worth us studying and centering our lives around?
5. What is one action step that you can take this week to better know God's Word and yield to it in your daily life?

Pray for one another. That you would see the glory and goodness of the Bible, and that God would eliminate distraction from being in His Word.



session eight



RALLY-ING AROUND MANHOOD





01 RALLY Recap

What is a man: Man is a relational being intended to be the image-bearer of God to the world.

Why was man created: To glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

How can men fulfill God's Purposes:

- **Rejecting Passivity:** The absence of engaging in something good that we know we should engage in.
- **Accepting Responsibility:** To prioritize and engage in the responsibilities God has given us in our respective season of life.
- **Leading Courageously:** To use your circles of influence to point people to Jesus through integrity, boldness, and meekness.
- **Loving Sacrificially:** To humbly serve others for their benefit and God's glory.
- **Yielding to God's Word:** To take God's Word as your primary source of truth/wisdom, and live it out.

Well Done!

You have successfully completed the eight weeks of studying biblical manhood! Well done! You have not only invested into yourself, but also all of the people in your family, community, and calling who will see a clearer picture of Jesus as you pursue Him deeper.

02 Manhood Battle Plan

Look over your Discussion Questions responses from week 1-7.

After reviewing your answers, ask yourself the following question:

What three action steps would I be willing to commit myself to as a biblical man in the weeks and months ahead? List them below.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

Who are 2 men that I can invite into my life to keep me accountable and encourage me to pursue this RALLY definition of manhood?
(if you are unsure, look to the other men at your table!)

1 _____

2 _____



03 What Now?

Consider engaging further in Men's Ministry at FBC as a way to continually grow spiritually and have mutual encouragement with other men. On the next page we have a list of ways that you can get involved and our Resource Center in the breezeway has several resources and devotionals that you can use to continue your journey.

Lastly, trust that God will make you more and more into a RALLY man day in and day out.

"Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit."
2 Corinthians 3:17-18



Next Steps...

Quiet Time

Build into your schedule a regular rhythm of spending time in God's Word and reflecting on how you are doing at the RALLY definition.

Discipleship

Make sure you have a couple men you regularly hang out with for spiritual growth and mutual encouragement. The best way to do this is join a discipleship group.
fbclife.org/discipleship

Bible Studies

Be intentional about growing in your Bible literacy by signing up for one of our men's bible studies throughout the year. One meets each Sunday from 7:30 - 9:15 AM and others can be found on our website events page.
fbclife.org/events

Men's Breakfasts

Come hang out the first Saturday of each month from 8:00 – 9:00 AM for some free breakfast and time in the Word with other men.

Life Groups

Life Groups are safe places for people to be fully known and fully loved. We offer various meeting times and will find a group that will be a good fit for you.

<https://fbclife.org/lifegroups>

Connect Online

Stay in the know on upcoming events and be equipped by following us on facebook.com/fbcm or visiting our website fbclife.org/equip#men.

Serve

If you call Fellowship your home, we want to be a place where you can use the ways that God has made you for His glory and others' good.

fbclife.org/serve

