

Real Men

Today, we have a lot to talk about and we are going to travel about 700 miles today but don't worry. I'll drive, I'll pay for the gas so climb in and let's get started.

Today, I am going to talk about being a real man.

SLIDE 1

Proverb 31 talks about a real woman,

Job 29 talks about being a real man.

SLIDE 2

Real men are men who initiate the leadership responsibilities at home and the culture of applying truth to the situations of life.

3 concepts that I want to talk about. (slide 3)

1. The character of a Real Man
2. The goal of a Real Man
3. The process of reclaiming your manhood.

Job 29:2 (slide 4)

"Job further continued his discourse, and said: "Oh, that I were as in months past, As in the days when God watched over me; When His lamp shone upon my head, And when by His light I walked through darkness; Just as I was in the days of my prime, When the friendly counsel of God was over my tent;"

Job 29:1-4 NKJV

When I read this, my thoughts were that Job is looking back at his past but I could also look at this as if he had lost his confidence.

He walked closely with God all his life and now everything he had or owned was gone except his wife and friends. So I could see that his confidence was gone.

If you remember the story of Job. The bible says that, "he was blameless and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil" meaning he lived in his calling. Today, we call it "our purpose or our calling."

The devil doesn't want us in our calling but he can't take it away from us.

Slide 5

The bible says, ""For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable." Romans 11:29 NKJV

Your calling is a gift from God and He won't take it from you if you sin. You cannot lose your calling. It stays with you. And satan can't take your calling from you.

So if Satan can't take your calling, he will attack your confidence. If he can take your confidence, he can keep you from functioning in your calling.

Slide 6

Joyce Meyers says that " A Christian without confidence is like a jet without fuel sitting on the runway. All that equipment but no power to get up above the circumstances."

Is that where you are at?

SLIDE 7

"Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward."

Hebrews 10:35 NKJV

I need to lay some groundwork for you to understand where we are going with this verse. To understand scripture or really, any statement, you have to understand the context from which the statement comes from.

Google says that Context means "the parts of something written or spoken that immediately precede and follow a word or passage and clarify its meaning."

However, you can also take a statement out of context meaning the circumstances in which it was said are not correctly reported, so that it seems to mean something different from the meaning that was intended. This is what the devil is good at doing.

Satan will always take God's word and change the context to lead you astray.

God really said, ""And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.""

Genesis 2:16-17 NKJV

Satan took it out of context to trick Eve into thinking differently.

SLIDE 9

3 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?" Genesis 3:1

The enemy wants to change the context by getting you to do the things you shouldn't do instead of doing the things you should do. He tries to get you to believe that Christianity is boring or that it is about rules and regulations. It's not. It's about having a relation with the Father. Seeking His kingdom.

How many of you know that we have a great high Priest whose name is Jesus and the author of Hebrews wants to help you get your confidence back.

The writer of Hebrews talks about confidence.

SLIDE 10

"Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward."

Hebrews 10:35 NKJV

This verse alone is good but allow me to add some context to it to get a clearer.

We all have confidence but we don't use it. How many of you have a cell phone on you right now? How many of you are talking on it right now? You have it but you are not using it. Sometimes, we think we need more confidence but we need to use the confidence we already have by virtue of the power of the Holy spirit that has been given to us..

Some of you are losing your confidence but you have to remember that you have the confidence to enter the most holy place.

Remember, in the Old Testament, in the Holy of Holies, the high Priest would take your offering and go through the vail and pour your blood offering on the altar. But the High Priest had to cleanse himself before he could enter the Holy of Holies because the presence of God was so strong that if he entered unclean he would die. Aren't you glad that we have a new covenant?

But because Jesus took our sins to the cross and His blood was shed and poured out on the altar in Heaven. So now we can stand before God with confidence because of Jesus. We need to understand that the sin that we did in our past, the sin that we do today and the sin that we will do tomorrow is covered by the blood of Jesus. So come on in. He

knows what you did when you were 18. Come on in. He knows what you did last year, come on in. He knows what you did yesterday, come on in.

But we feel like when we sin, we have to do something to cover our sin like in the Old Testament. Satan wants us to think that way instead of standing and believing on the word. He changed the context.

SLIDE 11

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, **20 by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, **21** and since we have a great priest over the house of God, **22** let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. **23** Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. **24** And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, **25** not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10: 19-25**

So how do we get our Christian confidence back?

There are three steps that we read that we need to do in order to get your confidence back.

SLIDE 12

- 1) You can't have confidence when you have a troubled conscience. It is hard for me to get up here and speak to you on how to be a Man of God when I have things that I wrestle with. So I have to have that talk with God to get my conscience right before I say a word. I don't have to be perfect to get up here and talk. If that were the case, only Scott Parrish could come up here and talk.**

So if you lost your confidence because you violated your conscience. So now, in your relationships, you can't look people in the eye because you are hiding. The text messages you hope your wife doesn't see. Because of unresolved bitterness. Forgiveness that God initiated but you haven't completed.

If Satan can't take your calling then he will take your confidence. If he can't get your confidence then he will disrupt your conscience. He will tempt you to sin so that you will have a defiled conscience. And now because you have a defiled conscience, you have no confidence. To come into the presence of God requires confidence. The presence of God is the only place your conscience can be healed.

We just read that. And now the only place God can heal you you won't come in because of your confidence. You wouldn't come to church when you need church the most. Don't let the devil tell you that you shouldn't come. But the context of my relationship is not my behavior - It is the blood of His Son that was already shed. And when those drops hit the ground, mercy hit my life. Grace covered my sin. His compassion covers all the things I've done, doing and will do. So I can come on in with my head held high like a child of the King. I'm not a slave to fear. I need you to understand that the context of Christian confidence is not your ability to conform to a set of behaviors. That is the old covenant. That is bringing a turtle dove to church and sacrificing it but we have a great high Priest and He is the context of my confidence.

- 2) And second, we must have community. You need people in your life. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together. We need people in our lives speaking into it. Helping us when we are weak. The temptation that we get from the enemy is the temptation to turn back. No sooner than when we start to follow God we get tempted to turn back. It could be that your running buddies no longer like you. They don't understand you. Certain people don't support your decision to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. That is why you need certain other people that support your decision. **YOU CAN'T DO THIS ALONE!** You have to follow Jesus for yourself but you Can't follow Jesus by yourself. So we need a new community. Someone that can look you in the eyes and say "I think you still got it." "You can make it" "Don't stop now" You need people who can guide you and pray for you.

There is a story in the old testament about Elisha and his servant. They were surrounded by the enemy. The servant cried out, "Oh My Lord! What shall we do?" Sometimes, that is the only prayer we can say. But Elisha prayed and said to the Lord, "Open his eyes so that he may see." When his servant opened his eyes, the only thing that had changed was his vision. When he opened his eyes, what was surrounding them was surrounded by the armies of the Living God.

We have a group of men that, I believe, are willing to surround what is surrounding you until you can see the promises of God coming to pass in your life.

Men - your lack of confidence doesn't have to be the death of your calling. Some of you may be at the crossroads where you are wondering if you should stay married. Some of you are at the crossroads of whether you should continue to walk out the path of Christianity or go back to the way it was before. **THERE HAVE BEEN TOO MANY CALLINGS ABANDONED BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF CONFIDENCE.** Remember this - when the devil is putting the pressure on, that is a sign that you are in proximity of your promise. Press on!! Hang on!!

- 3) We must have consistency - **SLIDE 13** You see chuck's biceps? They didn't get like that going to the gym one time. The first time he went to pick up the 40's. They were real heavy but now he picks up the 80's or the 90's. Because he picked up the 50's and the 60's. Confidence comes from consistency.

Serena Williams story

Confidence- prayers

Peace- forgave a lot of people

Perseveres through dry places- read a lot of bible verses

So, having a clean conscience. Having a group of Godly men surround you daily and being consistent in your walk with God. That will build your confidence.

32 Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you endured in a great conflict full of suffering.

SLIDE 14

It's strange that the author tells us to look at your past when the world tells us to forget your past and focus on your future.

Gap illustration

SLIDE 15

35 So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded.

Something interesting about this verse is that we use the excuse that through life's events, we lose our confidence because the devil took my confidence but the writer is saying that we control our confidence. No one or nothing can take your confidence. They can't take away what they didn't give you to start with . YOU GAVE IT AWAY. Here is the good news. IF YOU GAVE IT AWAY - YOU CAN TAKE IT BACK!! So take it back!!

Job could look over his shoulder and see what God had done in his past.

So when he needed confidence, he could go back in his mind and think about how God has been with him and how God has been good to him.

SLIDE 16 BREAK

SLIDE 17

5 when my children were all around me,

Job 29: 5

SLIDE 18

JOB AS A Godly Father

SLIDE 19

According to data from 2022, there are approximately 18.3 million children across America who live without a father in the home, comprising about 1 in 4 children (U.S. Census Bureau, 2022).May 15, 2023

63% of suicides are from fatherless homes

90% of all run-away children are from fatherless homes

85% of children with behavior disorders are from fatherless homes

71% of high school dropouts are from fatherless homes

75% of all adolescent chemical abuse patients in drug treatment centers are from fatherless homes.

85% of all youth in prison are from fatherless homes

Is this surprising to you?

Here me out - the mothers role is very important. The Mothers role is intimacy, care and nurture. But the truth is that as the child matures, the child will look to the father to process decisions and adopting values.

SLIDE 20

When the Almighty was yet with me,

When my children were around me;

Job walked with God and he led his family. He followed Gods commands. He did the Fathers will.

Remember Moses and the Ten Commandments?

When the Israelites heard the commands for God Himself, they thought they were going to die.

SLIDE 21

22 “These words the LORD spoke to all your assembly, in the mountain from the midst of the fire, the cloud, and the thick darkness, with a loud voice; and He added no more. And He wrote them on two tablets of stone and gave them to me.

You would think that the Israelites would be excited to hear Gods voice. Wouldn't you? They Didn't.

23 “So it was, when you heard the voice from the midst of the darkness, while the mountain was burning with fire, that you came near to me, all the heads of your tribes and your elders. **24** And you said: ‘Surely the LORD our God has shown us His glory and His greatness, and we have heard His voice from the midst of the fire. We have seen this day that God speaks with man; yet he *still* lives. **25** Now therefore, why should we die? For this great fire will consume us; if we hear the voice of the LORD our God anymore, then we shall die. **26** For who *is there* of all flesh who has heard the voice of the living God speaking from the midst of the fire, as we *have*, and lived? **27** You go near and hear all that the LORD our God may say, and tell us all that the LORD our God says to you, and we will hear and do *it*.’

In other words, we are terrified of God. We don't want that to happen again. Have God talk to you then you come tell us what He said.

This was Gods response:

SLIDE 22

28 “Then the LORD heard the voice of your words when you spoke to me, and the LORD said to me: ‘I have heard the voice of the words of this people which they have spoken to you. They are right *in* all that they have spoken. **29** Oh, that they had such a heart in

them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!

If we did that, it might be well with them and with their children forever.

We need a generational group of men that can be influential Godly Fathers.

You can produce a family but that doesn't make you a Father. You can be married but that doesn't make you a mate. And you can be a male but that does not make you a man.

The way we live our life will have an effect on our children. The way we lead our homes will have an effect on our children, And the way we lead our marriage will effect our children. Being fully dedicated to the Father will bless you and your children forever.

SLIDE 23

A Godly Father will leave a Legacy.

SLIDE 24

1 "Now this *is* the commandment, *and these are* the statutes and judgments which the LORD your God has commanded to teach you, that you may observe *them* in the land which you are crossing over to possess, **Not walk through it or visit it but possess it. You can touch it**2 that you may fear the LORD your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your son and your grandson, all the days of your life, and that your days may be prolonged. **This is a command to you. If you do this not only are you blessed but also your children and grandchildren** 3 Therefore hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe *it*, that it may be well with you, and that you may multiply greatly as the LORD God of your fathers has promised you—'a land flowing with milk and honey.' **When you follow Jesus, not only are you and your family blessed but everyone around you will be blessed. This is called an overflow blessing**

Three things from this verse.

- 1) You will have a long life. By living in His ways, it leads to longevity. I'm also investing in my kids and my grandkids
- 2) That it might go well with you - When you honor Him. When you honor His word, good things will come to you.
- 3) 3) A land of milk and honey. (Great wealth)

SLIDE 25 Joshua said in Joshua 1:8

8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe 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. Joshua 1:8

Dads, there is a legacy that you can leave your children. It's more powerful than stocks and bonds. It's a legacy of knowing God, loving God, and living for God..

What kind of legacy are you leaving your children?

There are two types of Legacy's that we will leave.

A legacy that will bless our family for generations. Or we will leave a legacy of hardship for our family. What you do will leave an affect on them

Remember this - we can't give what we don't have and we can't teach what we don't know.

How do we make a Legacy? God tells you how.

Slide 26

4 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one! 5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

Deuteronomy 6:4

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.

God requires an undivided love and loyalty from you because He alone is your God. He should be the number 1 love. We should be deeply and totally in love with God.

To love the Lord our God with a Christ-like love, is only possible as His love is continuously poured into our hearts, The more we absorb Him, the deeper our love for Him will become. Our love for God can only deepen and strengthen - as we grow in grace and in a knowledge of Him.

Listen - Your children don't want to know if you are perfect. They already know that you are not. What they do want to know is that you are sincere. What they want to know is that it matters to you. That you are really trying. That you are not playing games. Kids want to know that you are in tune with the Lord. They need to see that you are

passionately, whole-hearted in Love with God. They need to see that you love God more than anything or anyone else. That you are committed to Him with all your heart.

With our Soul

He wants us to love Him with our soul - our personality, our interests, our pleasures, our skills, our habits. The way we live and in all of our activities and being. Showing others that serving God is a big deal to you. We want to model this before our children. That we love the Lord and we want to serve the Lord. This is something we want to do because we love Him.

With our Strength

What we do, everything we do, has to align with the morals, ethics, and standards of His Kingdom.

In every area of our lives, we should be representing our Lord. We are supposed to be showing who our Lord is in every thought that we think, every word that comes out of our mouth, every response that we give. The way we treat others. We should be showing people Jesus in everything we do.

This is important because you cannot pass on what you do not possess.

There was a time in my life when I wanted my kids to go as far as they can in education. Go to college. Have a great career. Get married. Have 2.3 kids. Live life to the fullest. But as I grew in the Lord, I realized that my thinking was worldly thinking. Those goals have a time period. Those goals will end someday. But showing them how to live for the Lord was eternal. It doesn't have an end. They could have those things but living for God is more important than all that. Many time, my kids would stick a foot in the world and then tell their mom and I that it wasn't worth it. They wished that they hadn't done it.

A Godly father live with spiritual intentionality

6 “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. **7** You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. .Deuteronomy 6:6-7

How do we do this?

We should teach with conviction. To stand firm on your belief.

We do in our life what we think is important. We talk about what we feel strongly about. We live out of our convictions. Our convictions determine our decisions in life.

“And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.” If it is not on your heart, you will have very little impact on their heart. It’s got to be in you! The word of God has to be in you because you can’t teach what you don’t know and you won’t teach well what you are not passionate about.

You have to be consistent

As a father, it is our responsibility to diligently teach our children. You teach them over and over again.

Do it conversationally

Slide 28

7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.

You are going to talk about it all the time. That doesn’t mean bible verses flow out of your mouth every time you open it. That would be weird. You want to stir conversation to a spiritual outcome.

When your kids have a problem with another person, ask them “what does the bible say about how to handle that?” We asked Nathan when he was little, who is better? Jesus or Santa Clause? Santa Clause, he said. So we had to change the way he thought. We told him that it was Jesus that really was giving him the gifts. Santa was the deliverer.

If they are in a situation, ask them, “what does the bible say about that?” Create the conversation. If YOU don’t know the answer, google it. Call the leadership of your church. Call your accountability person. Avoiding conversations with your kids about the bible is not an excuse. If you don’t pour into them, the world will.

The bottom line is we have to have sit down talks. Speaking words to each other in passing is not having a conversation. Intentional conversations. Talk about how valuable they are. Encourage them not discourage them. When your kids become teenagers, they don't talk so much. When you want to talk - they don't. And when you get in the bed to wind down, they come and pile up on your bed then they want to talk. Your eyes want to close and their mouth wants to open. And during that season of your life, you will go without sleep. Don't wait until they are a certain age. Start now! Start speaking into their life. You are the priest of your home. You have to do whatever you have to do to have that relationship with them.

We should be teaching the word of God to our kids. If you are expecting your Pastor and Youth Pastor to teach your family how to live. Then they are a better husband and father than you are. The church is supposed to confirm what you have already taught them. Not the other way around.

Do it Conspicuously

SLIDE 29

8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Have the word of God in your head. What you think. And have the word of God on your hands. And what you do.

9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Is the word of God conspicuous in your home? If I walked into your home, what would catch my eye that would lead into conversation? If I saw pictures of your family - I would talk about your family. If I saw Clemson or Carolina paraphernalia, that would be my conversation. But if I saw a picture of bible verses. Then that is what I would talk about.

According to data collected by Promise Keepers and Baptist Press, if a father does not go to church, even if his wife does, only 1 child in 50 will become a regular worshiper. If a father does go regularly, regardless of what the mother does, between two-thirds and three-quarters of their children will attend church as adults. If a father attends church irregularly,

between half and two-thirds of their kids will attend church with some regularity as adults.

If a mother does not go to church, but a father does, a minimum of two-thirds of their children will end up attending church. In contrast, if a father does not go to church, but the mother does, on average two-thirds of their children will not attend church.

Slide30

- When both parents attend Bible study in addition to the Sunday service, 72% of their children attend Sunday school when grown.
- When only the father attends Sunday school, 55% of the children attend when grown.
- When only the mother attends Sunday school, 15% of the children attend when grown.
- When neither parent attends Sunday school, only 6% of the children attend when grown.

SLIDE 31 BREAK

SLIDE 32

A real man is a man of Respect

SLIDE 33

Job 29 :7-13

"When I went out to the gate by the city,

When I took my seat in the open square,

The young men saw me and hid,

And the aged arose *and* stood;

The princes refrained from talking,
And put *their* hand on their mouth;
The voice of nobles was hushed,
And their tongue stuck to the roof of their mouth.
When the ear heard, then it blessed me,
And when the eye saw, then it approved me;

A real man earns respect.

A real man doesn't go around saying respect me!

A real man carries himself in a way that you have got to respect him.

A real man carries himself in a way that there is no choice.

SLIDE 34

“Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.”

I Timothy 4:12-16 NKJV

Young people tend to believe that respect and responsibility come with age. This statement is not true. Respect and responsibility are earned.

Youth complains, “You don't trust me.” Wisdom replies, “What have you done to earn it?”

You can act in a way that generates respect regardless of age or experience. The opposite is also true. You can behave in a way that causes people to lose respect for you.

How do you earn respect?

SLIDE 35

Word-

SLIDE 36

Death and life are in the power of the tongue,
And those who love it will eat its fruit. Proverb 18:21

Our words are the window to our hearts. They breathe life into people or steal life from them. Our speech gives grace that builds people up or offers poison that tears people down.

A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks. Luke 6:45

SLIDE 37

Conversation -

13 Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. James 3:13

Conversation means behavior

13 Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good **behavior** his works with meekness of wisdom. James 3:13

Your action can display meekness and wisdom or pride and foolishness. A wise man is known by his words and his works.

Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by *your* good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation. Peter 2:12

Our conversation(behavior) should be honest and genuine. Our actions should match our beliefs. Live what you say you believe, and God can use your good works to glorify Himself.

People respect those who do what is right. In like manner, we have contempt for the weak and sinful.

Charity

Charity speaks of God's love.

Love is the decision to affectionately and unconditionally commit yourself to the needs of another at your expense without thought of return. God's love is different than all other loves. **Agape' love** is not an emotion. It is a commitment. Love is more than a feeling. It is a deep commitment to sacrifice for the benefit of the loved. God loves us, and He teaches us to love others with this divine love.

SLIDE 38

4 Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; 6 does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never fails. 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Spirit

In the Bible, this word with a little "s" usually speaks of man's spirit. Often, it means attitude. Your attitude speaks volumes to those around you. Attitude is the nonverbal speech of the soul. Proverbs has a lot to say about our spirit or attitude. It can be humble or proud; faithful or broken; hasty or calm.

Jesus had an excellent spirit. Daniel had one too. In fact, most of the spiritual people we admire have a godly and excellent spirit.

Slide 39

He that hath knowledge spareth his words: And a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit.

Proverbs 17:27

Slide 40

Faith

Faith is the measure of your personal confidence in God. It is trust in Who God is and reliance upon what He said in His Word without verification by sight or experience. **Faith moves God's hand, makes the unseen a reality and gives us access to the eternal.**

Believers respect faith. We are admonished to be not faithless but believing. Trust God in every situation. Let others see the calm assurance and confident action that can only be born in faith. With God's help, we should strive to display an unshakeable faith!

Acts 11:24

For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.

Purity

Purity is of great value. Multitudes are defiled with immorality and fleshly lusts. You stand out from the crowd when you are pure.

God is holy. Christ was pure. Reject the filthiness of the world and flesh.

God wants you to be pure in mind, heart, and body. Sexual desire is a natural part of God's plan. However, sex outside of marriage is a sin. Satan works to destroy purity and virtue. Purity is still important to God!

Slide 41

3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; **4** that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, **5** not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; **6** that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord *is* the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. **7** For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. 1
Thessalonians 4:3–7

Real men hurt for others. Real men are involved in the community making a difference for the have-nots of this world.

BREAK

Slide 43

A real man is a man of justice.

He has shown you, O man, what *is* good; And what does the LORD require of you. But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

Scripture is full of commands that humans act justly. This includes acting on behalf of those whose rights are being denied and those who are powerless to defend themselves:

Slide 44

- “Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause” ([Isaiah 1:17, ESV](#)).
- “Thus says the Lord: Do justice and righteousness, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor him who has been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the resident alien, the fatherless, and the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place” ([Jeremiah 22:3, ESV](#)).
- “Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked” ([Psalm 82:3–4](#)).

Also, he is a man of Stability

SLide 45

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

2 I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Psalms 91:1-2 KJV

Amplified Bible, Classic Edition

1 He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall remain stable *and* fixed under the shadow of the Almighty [Whose power no foe can withstand].

2 I will say of the Lord, He is my Refuge and my Fortress, my God; on Him I lean *and* rely, *and* in Him I [confidently] trust!

When the Spirit of God comes to live in us, He brings a power of greatness to lift us up and let us know that *through Him*, our lives can be valuable...regardless of what has happened to us.

The Lord has great things in store for every single one of us. He has a unique, amazing plan for your life that only you can fulfill. You are called to greatness...but you have to believe it.

Whatever problems you're facing, don't even try to solve them yourself. Learn how to put your confidence in God because He is your Deliverer.

and not in any way terrified by your adversaries, which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that from God. Philippians 1:28

Did you get that? *The enemy can't intimidate you unless you let him.*

We need to take ownership of our authority in Christ. And we need to resist the enemy at his onset before those sinking feelings start to develop and take root 1 Peter 5:9.

You're going to have plenty of opportunities on any given day to get upset or offended, to lose your peace, to say something really stupid, to think a bunch of negative thoughts. But you can choose not to. You can choose to trust God.

The Bible tells us that the Lord will allow and even arrange difficult situations in our life until we learn to be calm in the days of adversity.

Don't make plans to get upset if things don't happen the way you expect them to. Have a little meeting with yourself and think some things over. Set your mind concerning how you're going to behave.

A real man has wisdom

(slide 46)

Men listened to me with expectation,
waiting silently for my counsel.

After my words, they spoke no more;
my speech settled on them like dew.

They waited for me as for rain
and drank in my words like spring showers.

If I smiled at them, they did not believe it;
the light of my countenance was precious.

I chose their course and presided as chief.

So I dwelt as a king among his troops,
as a comforter of the mourners.

Job29:21-25

A man who had an answer. You don't have to have a lot of education to be wise. The old folks call it common sense. Wisdom is to be able to take God's truth and apply it to real life. We *have* a lot of educated fools today. People with degrees who went to college and found out there is no god. Went to graduate school and thought they could live without him. The bible says a man who says in his heart there is no god is a fool. We've got a lot of brilliant fools today. We need some men with common sense. People that can help people to live.

He learned the bible and applied to life.

The Bible defines wisdom as deriving from a relationship with God Himself. Wisdom originates from reverential awe and submission to the Lord. It comes through a relationship with God, redemptively yielding self in will, heart, and mind to Him. Fear of God is a prerequisite to wisdom.

The Bible defines wisdom as being rooted in God's Word.

Everything we have talked about so far has one common denominator- Reading His word and getting closer to Him.

Slide 47

THE GOAL OF A REAL MAN

Slide 48

You whom I have taken from the ends of the earth,

And called from its farthest regions,

And said to you,

'You are My servant,

I have chosen you and have not cast you away: Isaiah 41:9

The first thing you must have is

Slide 49

Destiny.

Discipline

Dominion

First of all, you need a sense of destiny. "I have chosen him." Destiny means that something or someone has selected you for a selected purpose.

Do you know what is wrong with our children today? They have no destiny. You know why? Cause dad doesn't know where he's going. Dad is going nowhere. The children are just like dad. He doesn't know where he is going. **Don't you know that you are royalty? God has chosen you as Prince of your home. Don't you know your destiny is to raise up a family that is a blossom and blessing in your community. You are a chosen man.**

Discipline **Slide 49**

It says to command his children. It is a fool who says I do not tell my children what to believe. Let me tell you something if you don't the world will. Social media is destroying our children. Have you just set and watch your children? They can't live without their phone. Don't believe me? Take it away from them.

Command something. Command that they be home by 10:00. Command that there be guidelines. Command that they be responsible. **But with the commands, you've got to know what's going on. Which means turn off the television set and put down your phone. Open up the bible and command that everyone be there for devotional.**

Slide 49

And then there's dominion. That means to apply the truth that you've been teaching in the home in society that God might now bless your community because of your kids. We've got to take our communities back. The kids aren't going to give them back. The druglords and gang leaders are not going to give it up. We've got to get tough and take it back.

Finally

Slide 50

Now what? You might say, I've heard you. I want to be that man. A man that will take truth and lead it in my family and society. What do I need to do?

First – you have got to go home. Sit down with your wife privately and say,

"I owe you an apology. I have made a terrible mistake. I didn't mean to make it. I've given you my role and I must reclaim it. It wasn't fair to you. I now need to take it back."

If you noticed, I didn't say to ask for it back. I said to take it back. Because if you ask her to give it back, she might say ... no.

It will take time to transition. But in time, it will happen.

Let your schedule reflect your new commitment. Schedule your time around your family. Not fitting your family in your schedule.

Have a date night with your wife. Call her and tell her to get dressed, I'm taking you out tonight.

SINGLE MEN

Pray for the Godly woman that He has for you.

Pray that God prepare you for her.

Don't let those sexual desires control you.

There is no better time for your walk with God to grow as a single person.