



MEN'S NIGHT '14

JOURNEY TO EXTRAORDINARY MANHOOD

*"Absolutely nothing of lasting value or significance
will ever happen in life apart from leadership."*

~ Crawford Loritts



WARM-UP

Who had the greatest positive impact on you when you were growing up? Why was his/her impact so great?

The people who have had the greatest impact on us were not the most gifted or talented people. They exhibited great character and loved us.

In this study, we are going to discover how we are ALL called to lead and how we can develop the heart of a leader. For the next six weeks, it is going to be important for us to commit to the following:

- 1// **The Group** – Make the commitment to attend small group regularly during this study.
- 2// **The Men** - Commit to connect with the men in our group and develop deeper relationships.
- 3// **The Book** – Commit to reading *Leadership as an Identity* and asking God to speak to us during our reading. We will get out of this small group experience what we put into it.

DISCOVERY AND APPLICATION

Read Isaiah 55:8-9 and Matthew 2:25-28

According to these portions of scripture, how do you think Christian leadership is different from secular leadership?





Christian leaders should see themselves as made in the image of God with a specific assignment to complete for the good of others. In contrast, secular leaders often leverage authority to get people to do what they want for their own personal gain.

"What we believe, how we think, and how we act should be governed by our biblical framework." ~ Crawford Loritts, Leadership as an Identity

How can we establish a biblical framework from which we can become better servant leaders?

Christian Leadership should be defined by the desire to serve others by helping them fulfill their God-given potential.

Read Hebrews 11:24-28 to discover how Moses sacrificed in order to be the servant-leader God called him to be. Do you think people perceive you as a servant-leader or as a selfish-leader? Why?

"To be a leader is a sacred trust."

~ Crawford Loritts, Leadership as an Identity

How do you view what you do (parent, teacher, coach, volunteer, spouse, employee, employer, etc.) as a "sacred trust?"





Read Matthew 28:19-20.

The nature of God's assignment for our lives is to further his Kingdom by leading people to Christ and teaching them how to grow in their relationship with Him.

Read 1 Timothy 3:1.

We are told that desiring to be a leader is a godly desire because it gives us the opportunity to influence others for God. In what ways do you aspire to grow as a leader?

We must turn to God daily for the strength to be God's man and not run from his call to serve others by leading.

PRAYER

Ask God to help each man in the group to connect with God and other men during this 6-week journey to extraordinary manhood. Also, ask each group member for any specific requests they want the group to pray for. Write them in the space below so each group member can pray for one another throughout the week.



The background is a vintage map of the Antarctic region, showing various straits and islands. A thick, braided rope border runs horizontally across the top and bottom of the page. A dark red banner with a white border is centered on the page, containing the title text.

JOURNEY TO EXTRAORDINARY MANHOOD
WEEK 2



WARM-UP

Think of a difficult time that you've had to deal with in life. What emotions or images come to mind when you think about this challenging time?

Today we are going to discuss the importance of embracing brokenness as a way to grow in our relationship with God and in our influence.

DISCOVERY AND APPLICATION

Read John 15:5 and 2 Corinthians 12:9-10.

According to these verses, what attitudes do we need to embrace in order to become men of influence?

Men who possess an attitude of brokenness and surrender position themselves to become great leaders for God. Why do you think this contradictory idea of leadership is what God has called us to embrace?

*"Brokenness is a conscious, core awareness that we need God in all things."
~ Crawford Loritts, Leadership as an Identity*





Why is living a broken and surrendered life challenging to embrace as a man? What is the hardest area of your life to surrender to God? Why?

Living a broken and humble life can be challenging. The Apostle Paul gives us an example of how to stay broken and humble before God when he wrote 2 Corinthians 11:30.

"If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness."
2 Corinthians 11:30

How can you embrace the idea of boasting about your weakness?
How can your humility increase the influence God can trust you with?

One of the greatest ways to remain humble and grow as a leader is to surround yourself with godly men who sharpen you.

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17

Do you have men in your life with whom you are close enough for them to sharpen you? How have these relationships with other men helped you grow closer to God and in influence?

We must remain broken, surrendered, and connected to other men if we are to grow into the leaders God has called us to be.





PRAYER

Pray that God will help the men in your group to live broken and surrendered to God and to grow in relationships with other men. Also, ask each group member for any specific requests they want the group to pray for. Write them in the space below so each group member can pray for one another throughout the week.

RECOMMENDED READING FOR THIS WEEK:
Leadership as an Identity Chapters 7-9

WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO ME THIS WEEK?



The background is a vintage map with a grid of latitude and longitude lines. The map is aged and yellowed, with various geographical names and labels in a cursive or historical font. Two thick, braided rope borders are positioned horizontally across the top and bottom of the page. A dark red, rectangular banner with rounded corners is centered on the page, containing the title text in white.

JOURNEY TO EXTRAORDINARY MANHOOD
WEEK 3



WARM-UP

What is the hardest task you have been asked to accomplish? Why was it so hard? How did you successfully complete the task?

One of the greatest ways to tackle a difficult task is to ask others for their help. Today, we are going to discuss the importance of relying on God in order to accomplish the great things he has called us to.

“When the source of your leadership is your personal competency, the contribution you make to the assignment God has given you will be mediocre at best.” ~ Crawford Loritts, Leadership as an Identity

How does this statement challenge the way your view your dependence on God?

DISCOVERY AND APPLICATION

Read Exodus 33:7-16 to see how Moses sets the example on having “uncommon communion” with God.

Read Exodus 33:7.

Moses went to the “tent of meeting” to get away and hear from God. What habits do you have in your life to help you connect with God on a regular basis? What can you do to develop a better time of connection with God?





"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."
Jeremiah 29:13

God used the Prophet Jeremiah to encourage the Israelites to continually pursue a relationship with him. He promised if they sought him they would find him. This same promise holds true today.

Read Exodus 33:8-10.

Moses' relationship with God was a great example for those he was leading. How can your relationship with God impact people you are leading? Are you setting a good example of how to pursue an intimate relationship with Jesus?

"Draw near to God and he will draw near to you." James 4:8

People whom we influence should see the results of consistent communion with God. This should instill in them a desire to draw closer to God.

Read Exodus 33:14-15.

Moses realized his incredible desire and utter dependence on God. The challenges of leadership are meant to make us hungry for the presence of God. When you face challenges, do you tend to pursue God or turn to self-reliance? Why?





Read Exodus 33:16.

How does dependence on God put us in a position of strength?
How is this different from most people’s view of leadership?

“But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.” Isaiah 40:13

When we desperately pursue God as our source of strength we will find supernatural rest even in the midst of turmoil. Our spiritual desperation causes us to turn to God as our only hope, which puts us in a position of strength.

What do you need to do in order to grow closer and more dependent upon God as a man who is called to lead?

PRAYER

Pray that God will help the men in your group to have a passion to pursue him and that they will develop an “uncommon communion” with God. Also, ask each group member for any specific requests they want the group to pray for. Write them in the space below so each group member can pray for one another throughout the week.





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JOURNEY TO EXTRAORDINARY MANHOOD
WEEK 4



WARM-UP

When you hear the word “servant,” what type of thoughts and images come to mind?

Serving is not a sign of weakness, but of strength. It is when we choose to serve others that God’s love is seen through our humility.

DISCOVERY AND APPLICATION

During our discussion time today, we are going to look at the man who was both the greatest leader and greatest servant in history – Jesus.

“Jesus humbled himself in order to serve the purposes of God and to serve us. He is our example. We too must humble ourselves by serving the purposes of God and serving others.”

-- Crawford Loritts, Leadership as an Identity

“Embracing servant leadership is not a strategy; it is an identity. It is not something you do to bring about change or fulfill your agenda, but it is who you are.” -- Crawford Loritts, Leadership as an Identity

How does this statement challenge your view of being a servant leader? Do you tend to use servant leadership as a strategy or have you embraced it as a lifestyle?





The key to being a servant leader is humility. A humble man has the attitude and desire to serve others with joy.

“Humility is the intentional recognition that God is everything to you, and that you are nothing without him. It is the acknowledgment that life is not about you, and that the needs of others are more important than your own.” -- Crawford Loritts, Leadership as an Identity

“For who makes you differ from another? And what do you have that you did not receive? Now if you did indeed receive it, why do you boast as if you had not received it?” 1 Corinthians 4:7

Do you tend to rely solely on God as your source, or do you take credit for what you have accomplished? Why?

Even though he was God in a human body, Jesus recognized he needed his heavenly father to accomplish his purpose of impacting eternity. He was the ultimate servant leader because he embraced humility.

Read Matthew 20:27-28.

How is the idea of servant leadership presented in these verses contrary to how most people tend to lead? How do you think being a servant leader can increase your influence?





One of the greatest enemies of humility is success. Jesus, the greatest leader in history, remained humble even when he found fame and success during his time on earth. Here are a few questions you should ask yourself often to test whether you are drifting towards a proud attitude.

1// Are you teachable? Do you have a desire to learn?
Do you listen to those who do not have authority over you?

2// Are you concerned with visibility and recognition,
or with significance?

3// Are you overly focused on comparison and entitlement?

How will you live differently as a result of what God has spoken to you during the discussion today?





PRAYER

Pray that God will help the men in your group to embrace servant leadership as an identity and not just a strategy. Also, ask each group member for any specific requests they want the group to pray for. Write them in the space below so each group member can pray for one another throughout the week.

RECOMMENDED READING FOR THIS WEEK:

Leadership as an Identity Chapters 7-9

WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO ME THIS WEEK?



The background is a vintage, sepia-toned map of the Antarctic region, showing the continent's coastline and various straits and bays. The map is framed by two thick, white rope-like borders at the top and bottom. A dark red rectangular box with a white border is centered on the map, containing the text.

JOURNEY TO EXTRAORDINARY MANHOOD
WEEK 5



WARM-UP

What is the most courageous thing you have ever accomplished?
How did you get the courage to accomplish this feat?

Today, we are going to discuss the role that radical obedience plays in living a courageous life so we can leave a legacy.

DISCOVERY AND APPLICATION

During our discussion time today, we are going to look at how Joshua's courageous lifestyle laid the foundation for his legacy.

Courage is complete obedience to God in the face of opposition. What do you think keeps people from walking in courageous obedience? What is challenging to you about living a lifestyle of courageous obedience to God?

We are going to look at Joshua's rise to leadership as an example of how to live with courageous obedience to God.





Read Deuteronomy 31:7-8.

In these scriptures, we see Moses commission Joshua as the next leader of the Nation of Israel. How do you think Joshua felt in this moment?

Have you ever been in a situation, like Joshua, where you were given very challenging circumstances to work through? How did you respond?

We are going to look at qualities of courageous obedience so we can live our lives in order to leave a legacy.

Read Joshua 1:1-4.

In these scriptures, we see Moses commission Joshua as the next leader of the Nation of Israel. How do you think Joshua felt in this moment?

What is God asking you to do with your life in order to leave a lasting legacy?

Read Joshua 1:5-6, 9.

Our courage rests on the assurance of God's presence and His promise that He will be with us. How would you live differently if you were constantly aware of the courage God wants to give you?





Read Joshua 1:7-8.

In these scriptures, we see Moses commission Joshua as the next leader of the Nation of Israel. How do you think Joshua felt in this moment?

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How will you live differently as a result of what God has spoken to you during the discussion today?





PRAYER

Pray that each man would have the courage to complete his God-given assignment. Also, ask each group member for any specific requests they want the group to pray for. Write them in the space below so each group member can pray for one another throughout the week.

RECOMMENDED READING FOR THIS WEEK:

Begin looking over Week 6 – *Your Manhood Plan*.

WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO ME THIS WEEK?





JOURNEY TO EXTRAORDINARY MANHOOD
WEEK 6



MANHOOD PLAN

As we come to the end of this 6-week small group study, it is important for us to celebrate what God has done in our lives and to understand our journey has only begun. In order to continue our journey to extraordinary manhood, we are going to develop a Manhood Plan, which will help guide us on our journey.

“Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it.” Habakkuk 2:2

We will discuss 3 specific roles in your life and begin to create your Manhood Plan. The areas we will focus on today are your relationships with:

- 1// **God**
- 2// **Family**
- 3// **Core group of men**

Each section has 4 questions that will help you determine what you need to do to get where God is leading you:

- 1// What do you want your relationship to look like in one year?
- 2// Why do you want to grow in this specific area of your life?
- 3// What is a key Bible verse God will give you to stand on regarding this specific area? This will keep your faith strong in difficult times.
- 4// What does this area of your life currently look like?

Each area on your *Manhood Plan* has Action steps. These are in place to help you determine practical steps to help you continue on your *Journey to Extraordinary Manhood*.

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

What do you want your relationship with God to look like in one year?





Why do you want to grow in your relationship with God?

What is a key verse that supports your growth in this area of your life?

What does your relationship with God currently look like?

I will do the following action steps to help me get where I want to be in my relationship with God:

1// I will commit to a daily time with God.

When: _____ When: _____

2// I will get a Bible reading plan.

(Go to Youversion.com to find a plan that works best for you.)

3// I will commit to a life of sexual purity (emotional, physical, mental) by being accountable to a core group of men.

4// _____

5// _____

6// _____





RELATIONSHIP WITH FAMILY

What do you want your relationship with your family to look like in one year? If you are not married, who do you want to become in order to be the man of God you are called to be in a marriage relationship?

Why do you want to grow in your relationship with your wife/kids?

What is a key verse that supports your growth in this area of your life as a man?

What does your relationship with your family currently look like?

I will do the following **action steps** to help me get where I want to be in my relationship with my family:

- 1// I will pray with my wife and kids on a regular basis.
- 2// I will commit to discovering and speaking the love languages of my wife and kids. (5lovelanguages.com)





3// I will commit to regularly attend church with my family and friends.

4// _____

5// _____

6// _____

RELATIONSHIP WITH MY CORE GROUP

What do you want your relationship with your Core Group of Men to look like in one year?

Why do you want to develop your Core Group of Men?

What is a key verse that supports your growth in this area of your life as a man?





What does your Core Group of Men currently look like?

I will do the following action steps to help me get where I want to be with my Core Group of Men:

1// I will commit to attending a Small Group on a regular/weekly basis.

2// I will invite three godly men to hold me accountable to my Manhood Plan and in other areas of my life.

3// _____

4// _____

5// _____





LITTLE CREEK MANDEVILLE

Saturday | 5:30pm // Sunday | 9am & 11:15am

GULF COAST BILOXI

Sunday | 9:30am & 11:15am

SOUTH SHORE METAIRIE

Sunday | 9:30am & 11:15am

ONLINE.CHURCHOFTHEKING.COM

Tuesday | 2pm // Thursday | 8pm // Sunday | 5pm

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