

Sunday Jan 29, 2012 Courageous Manhood

Several thoughts in this message are adapted from the book: Stepping Up - a call to courageous Manhood, Dennis Rainey (www.familylife.com). Referenced as –DR in this document

Need for Real Men

We've not been prepared to be husbands or fathers.

Winston Churchill is often quoted as saying, "There comes into the life of every man a task for which he and he alone is uniquely suited. What a shame if that moment finds him either unwilling or unprepared for that which would become his finest hour."

The world around us is not very supportive of helping us develop into real men Homes where fathers do not train and nurture their sons to be real men Fatherless homes No proper role models of what real men ought to be like A culture of confusion – "a generation of men who don't know how to be men. They don't know how to have real relationships—with women, with their children, or with other men." - DR

Life brings its challenges – but we need men who will face up, own up, step up – to whatever life brings.

It is easy to go into denial and do nothing.

We need men who are Courageous

It takes courage to face up, own up, step up.

"Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgment that something else is more important." -DR

"Courage that overcomes fear comes from convictions, and convictions about life and death come from the truth of Scripture." -DR

Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one's courage.

What is real manhood?

Robert provides a working definition of manhood as the foundation for his curriculum: "A real man rejects passivity, accepts responsibility, leads courageously, and expects God's greater reward."

Passivity is not courage.

John Piper: "At the heart of mature masculinity is a sense of benevolent responsibility to lead, provide for, and protect women in ways appropriate to man's differing relationships."1

Manhood and Christ-likeness are synonymous. – Dr. Edwin Louis Cole Ephesians 4:13, 1 Timothy 2:5

Jesus Christ is the perfect Man.

He came not only to reveal God to man, but also reveal us to us. He came to reveal what a man ought to be in God.



A COURAGEOUS MAN

1. A courageous man controls his emotions and passions.

1 Thessalonians 4:3-5

"a real man tames his passions. He doesn't abuse women and children; he protects them. He keeps his hands off a woman who is not his wife, and he treats his wife with love, respect, and dignity. He keeps his eyes off pornographic images. He protects a single woman's virginity and innocence. He's not a jerk defined by his exploits below the waist. He's a man with a heart, head, and conscience." - DR

2. A courageous man provides for his family.

1Timothy 5:8

"providing for their family means more than meeting physical needs. It also means taking responsibility to provide for emotional and spiritual needs. A father should train his children and prepare them to become responsible adults who know how to negotiate the swift and sometimes evil currents of culture." - DR

3. A courageous man protects his family.

Genesis 2:15 tend the garden and guard the garden

being a protector calls for more than ensuring physical safety.

"Proverbs 4:10–15 describes a father who protects his son by passing on wisdom, helping him build godly character, and teaching him to reject the lies and temptations of the world. This father is protecting not only his son but the generations to follow as the wisdom he shares gets passed on and on." – DR

Solomon chose wisdom because his father David taught him to choose wisdom.

4. A courageous man serves and leads his family.

Those two words—serve and lead—may seem like a contradiction, but they are inseparable according to Scripture.

Ephesians 5:23,25

5. A courageous man follows God's design for true manhood.

Jesus Christ, the perfect Man came to do the will of the Father. Hebrews 10:7

Micah 6:8

"A courageous man is never off duty." - DR

Wives – be patient with your husband. Be his encourager.

Young ladies – don't look for a perfect man. Look for a man who is serious about His journey to mature manhood, i.e. is to be Christlike.

Sermon Notes





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