



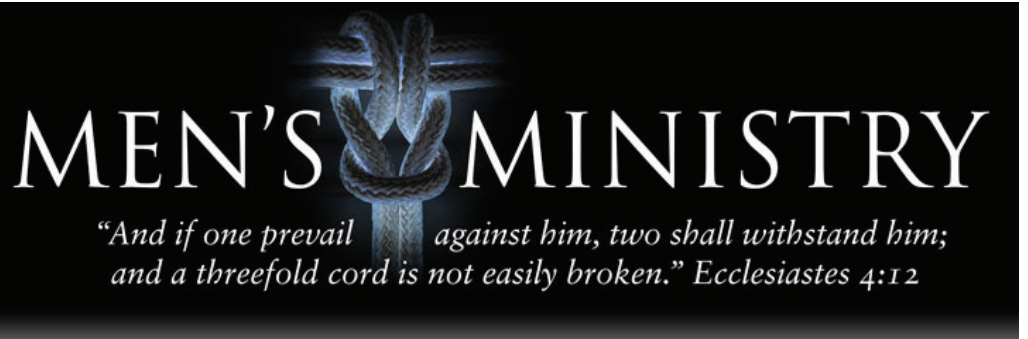
From the Pastor's Study

The Apostle Paul recognized the urgency and priority of training up men of God to lead the church and our homes. That is why we find him providing directives on a number of occasions to the "man of God." (I Tim. 6:11-12; II Tim. 3:17) Our church and our families are ever in need of men whose hearts are humbly yielded to God and who treasure the gospel. May I challenge each man who reads this column to consider three areas you can engage in spiritual battle and exert godly leadership in our church and your home: prayer, holiness, and the Scriptures.

Men are called to be **prayerful**. (I Tim. 2:8) Too often we as men focus on wanting to rule without taking responsibility or seeking others to submit to our leadership rather than focusing on serving others. Rather than taking charge and getting things done our way, we would be wise to first and foremost pray for those around you: the members of our church, our growth group, your family, your relatives, your co-workers, and your neighbors on your street. Prayer is one of the hardest things you will do, because it is spiritual battle. (Eph. 6:18) But prayer is effective. (James 5:16)

Men are called to **flee from sin**. (living for self, materialism, living to be comfortable, etc.) In I Tim. 6:11-12 Paul called on men to shun sin and pursue godliness. Our goal is to reflect upon our King's agenda and pursue His agenda and His values. This involves swimming upstream, going against the cultural norms. May God raise up men who will engage in battle against the world, the flesh and the devil.

(Continued on p. 4)



The Heart of The Men's Ministry at New Village Church

Basically the heart of our Men's Ministry here at New Village Church can be summed up by Acts 2:42 "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." These are considered the ordinary means of grace. Ordinary in that any christian can make use of them so that God can do extraordinary things through them. We believe using these means that God has given us, we can build a growing, healthy, strong presence as the men of New Village. As men we lead the home and church whether we want to or not. The question is not "Will we lead?"; it is "Will we lead well?"

The Apostle's Teaching

This is a vital area of our ministry. God's word is the life support of our ministry. Without God's Word, we would simply turn into just another club or hangout. Our main vehicle for teaching God's word is our Men's Ministry Morning. Every other Saturday we have been meeting to teach the Scriptures. Here we try to present practical teachings from the Word of God, combined with the opportunity to discuss it in an open forum setting. As Men's Ministry leaders we also believe in the bold but biblical idea that every man should study the Bible for himself. Unfortunately many men in church think of getting fed only on Sunday by the pastor. We are blessed to be a part of a church that encourages men to dig into the scriptures for themselves. We try to promote this idea by informing the men (via e-mail) which passage of scripture we will be looking at so they can take initiative to study it out on their own and contribute in a meaningful way to the group discussion. Our hope as well is to add theology to our teachings and discussion. This will help us to stay strong biblically and also teach the men to identify faulty doctrine and false teachers such as Benny Hinn, Joyce Meyer, Joel Osteen and many others that have been gaining popularity even among stronger church goers. Also,

when we engage the minds of the men, showing them that Christianity is indeed for those who think, Jesus is lifted up and men will be inspired to follow him. This of course is our ultimate goal. To have a ministry of men following Christ.

.... and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread...

(1Thess. 2:8) "So being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.

This verse gets right at the heart of what it means to fellowship. Here at New Village we believe strongly that in order to grow as a Christian we must share our lives with each other. Of course as we do so the gospel needs to constantly be front and center. Some of the ways we do this is through fellowship nights, texting, phone calls and even sharing meals together. On fellowship nights we come together as a group of men and discuss God's word. We hope to keep it an informal atmosphere where we can build trust in one another and provide a safe environment to talk openly and sometimes even confess sin. We aim to become even more intentional about discussing current events, common struggles and questions about the bible or theology. It is here where we also encourage seasoned believers to not sit back and relax in their later years, but to give their lives by sewing the gospel into the lives of younger believers in the faith. A ministry with a diverse age group is a sign of a healthy ministry and I'm glad to say we have many examples of older men pouring into the younger ones and also the younger men bringing a zeal and freshness to the ministry as well. Also during fellowship we try to talk about leadership in the home and at Church.

(Continued on p. 3)

MEN OF INTEGRITY



"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" - Joshua 24:15

Christian Men in the Church

"Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, 'Behold the man!'"

- John 19:5

Many observe that women tend to be more active in the church than men. Certainly, there are exceptions, but pastors usually have a harder time getting men involved in the church's work than women. Young single women often lament that they seem to vastly outnumber the young single men in their congregations. If only one parent in a family is a churchgoer, the father is likely the one who stays at home. Women ministers fill the pulpits of denominations who lack men willing to serve or who have ordained men who will not stand upon the principles for church governance found in God's Word.

Perhaps the best explanation for this phenomena is that men have often thought Christianity demands the surrender of masculinity. This is certainly true in the extreme of men like Friederich Nietzsche, who adopting an unbiblical view of strength said that Christianity was a religion for the weak. Our culture's embrace of the "self-made" man has caused many to see self-reliance as the highest good, a message that is the antithesis of the gospel. Though these views of masculinity may be false, their prevalence can mean that some men view Christianity and manhood as irreconcilable.

A false view of humility may also contribute to this sense that real manhood is incompatible with church service. Humility is sometimes preached as a trait that de-emphasizes one's individual worth and abilities or that produces timid people. Yet this is far from the truth, since humility is the proper estimation of oneself. We are not to think lowly of ourselves when it is empirically inappropriate to do so, nor are we to think more highly of ourselves than is warranted (Rom. 12:3-8). Humble people do not let others take advantage of them; they willingly and knowingly put others ahead of themselves (Phil. 2:3).

Jesus was certainly not timid (Matt. 23), nor was He naïve or foolish. Instead, He willingly went to the cross because His strength of purpose and love for His Father moved Him to accomplish that for which He was sent. And Jesus is the ultimate man, the second Adam who fully exhibits all that God wants men to be (1 Cor. 15:45). Men find true manhood only in serving the Savior.

Coram Deo

As the only man who never sinned (1 Peter 2:22), Jesus is the supreme example of what it means to be a man, and all men would do well to live after the pattern of His life, relying upon the power of the Holy Spirit to have Scripture define godly masculinity. Men are well-served by developing close relationships with other men in our congregation, and wives should be doing all they can to support this so that their husbands might learn from other godly men.

Passages for Further Study

Numbers 14:20-24

Hosea 3

Mark 10:45

John 7:53-8:11

"The church of God must focus in on manhood as an essential to discipleship. The church must take on an active role in restoring the image of men through Jesus. We must work hard at engaging men beyond breakfasts and small events. There must be a concerted effort to make sure that the church is where manhood can be seen and trained." -Eric Mason in his book *Manhood Restored*



"In renewing our minds' the Lord is creating followers who don't only think about the truth, but walk in light of the truth."

-Eric Mason in his book *Manhood Restored*

"The role of men in their families is so important that God honored it by conferring upon us his own title, Father."

-Voddie Baucham Jr. from *Family Shepherds: Calling and Equipping Men to Lead their Homes*

"Boys do not make wise decisions on their own, which is fine -if you are seven. The difficulty today, though, is that we have many men who are no longer seven but who are still looking for somebody else to take care of them."

-Dr. Tony Evans in his book *Kingdom Man*

HELLO
MY NAME IS

Poll: Have a hand in naming our new newsletter.

We'd love to see the congregation to embrace the newsletter. To aide in that we are inviting you to tell us what you think we should name it! We know there are some great ideas out there so please send in your submission to the church office at

office@newvillagechurch.net.

Please limit your name suggestions to three words.

(Continued from page 1.)

I've heard it said that leadership is taking the initiative for the benefit of others and I'm happy to say that all of us have been growing in that area. Men texting and calling other men to check in on them to see if they need anything such as prayer is quickly becoming the norm. It is so important to encourage men to come along side each other. Christ builds up his people through his people.

Prayer

Prayer must never be underestimated or undervalued as part of the Men's Ministry. Although we value and utilize corporate prayer, we feel there are many opportunities for this provided at New Village Church such as Wednesday night prayer meetings, Growth Groups and also during group prayer in the worship service. We feel called to take prayer to a more personal level, encouraging the guys to be intentional about writing down prayer requests that are put on their heart and continually devoting themselves to those prayers. In this way the brother you are praying for will be continually on your mind and in your thoughts as you lift them up to God. Not only do we have the privilege to intercede, give thanks and petition to the Creator of the universe, we will also stay in touch with our brother and maybe even be used of God to answer that prayer. As the Men's Ministry leaders we also pray for the men of New Village Church, the Men's Ministry and the leadership.

Outreach

In addition to the Bible study, fellowship and prayer, we are also trying to make an effort to reach the unsaved. Volleyball has been a great avenue for reaching out to unsaved family and friends and having a good time in the process. This past season has been very productive, having several unsaved men joining us as we've opened in prayer and had some good clean fun. We were also afforded a chance to engage in conversation with these men at the Diner afterwards. Future plans include a bocci court and a picnic area for a more laid back experience where men of any fitness level can participate. We are also planning several bon fires throughout the Fall season. We are hoping that these bon fires will be a chance for men to invite family and friends to hang out by the fire, singing songs, having coffee and getting to know each other with a small town type of feel.

We would really appreciate your prayers for the Men's Ministry and the direction we are heading. It is an incredible privilege, responsibility and blessing for us to be a part of this ministry. We thank God and the church family for this opportunity.

In Christ,
The Men's Ministry

"Obviously, only God can change people's hearts and make them want to become followers. We just have to be obedient in making the effort to teach them, even though we still have plenty to learn ourselves".

-Francis Chan in his book multiply: disciples making disciples

"If being right becomes more important to us than worshipping God, then our theology is not really about God anymore. It's about us."

-Joshua Harris in his book Humble Orthodoxy

"Unless the church begins to take the lead in seriously prioritizing men's ministry and discipling this and the next generation of men then we are doomed to see the further decay of our society."

-Dr. Tony Evans in the foreword to Eric Mason's book Manhood Restored

Manhood Restored: How the Gospel Makes Men Whole

Eric Mason is the pastor of Epiphany Fellowship in Philadelphia and the author of Manhood Restored: How the Gospel Makes Men Whole, I first met Eric when he served on the advisory council for The Gospel Project. He's a powerful preacher who loves his church, his family, and his community. Today, I've invited him to the blog for a discussion about God's vision of manhood.

Trevin Wax: Men's movements have been a permanent fixture in the evangelical landscape for the past two decades. Why?

Eric Mason: The absence of men in churches. Even where there are men present in local churches, there seems to be a passivity of presence.

In light of the absence of leadership, there has been everything from Promise Keepers to some of the new manhood movements – Dr. Evans' Kingdom Man, the whole Men's Fraternity, etc. This is a phenomenal need and each variation has added its own flair to it. Kostenberger's God, Marriage, and Family deals with the family as a whole with a special emphasis on the theology of family and the life of men. I think is the best book on men written in the last twenty years. I also can't leave out Family Life and their contribution. Everywhere I hear the similar issues from the past generations, and these issues have given rise to these movements.

Trevin Wax: What do you think is missing from some of the strategies and principles coming out of the men's movement?

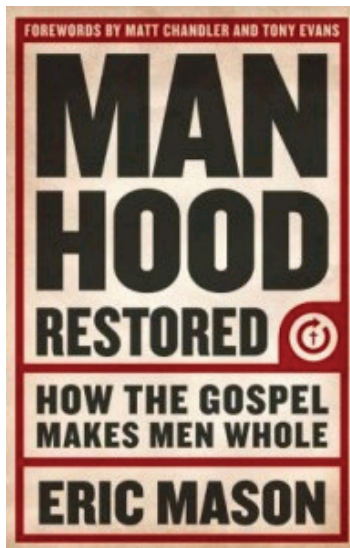
Eric Mason: At times, we've needed to see more vulnerability from leaders. When we are honest about our failures, we help others understand the gospel more effectively. When we are honest about our failures, we can believe God and repent of our sins and turn toward Him because He is faithful. I am not talking about any of the men I've mentioned in particular. All of us tend toward moralistic teaching how-tos – how to do this, how to do that, how to be a better husband, how to be a better wife, and while those things have their place, we need a theological framework that sets that up.

I think on the other end we've had highly theological works that left men in a daze. We have this beastly theological grid, and especially for some of the younger generations that love intellectualism and robust theology, they're at a loss with how to apply all their theological terminology. There can be a struggle to live it out.

There needs to be a little more realness. In that realness there needs to be a connection and an intersection between theological richness and cultural connectivity to the reality and progression of culture. I'm not dogging any of the movements that I've mentioned; I'm just speaking in general.

Trevin Wax: You write about the impact of daddy deprivation. What do you mean by this and why is it so important?

(Continued on p. 4)



(Continued from page 3.)

Eric Mason: Daddy deprivation was a term I got from a pastor named Blake Wilson in Houston about 13 years ago. That phraseology of daddy deprivation was phenomenal to me and I wanted to flesh it out because as time went on, and I began to see an epidemic of fatherlessness.

In the book *Fatherless America*, David Blankenhorn talks about the category of fatherlessness. Fatherlessness can go all the way from a guy who's home, he has his family, he works, he provides but he is emotionally, intellectually absent. That's fatherlessness because there is no active ministry of presence. But then all the way up to the person who abandons their children or had sex with a woman and kind of rolled out on her and the kids never knew who their dad was and they grew up without a father.

Daddy deprivation is anything between from those extreme pendulums. The reason I talk about the importance of this is because as a pastor have seen and experienced the impact of daddy deprivation on the lives of men cross-ethnically.

In our own church, Epiphany Fellowship, we've got white men, Asian men, Latino men, black men, different types of African, Caribbean, men, people from overseas. I hear many stories from different people about the formation of family. Daddy deprivation is a consistent issue in biblical manhood that needs to be engaged. It's systemic because fathers were given the theological and spiritual responsibility to lead. In Proverbs, we see the leading of the family along with a mother who is an instructor as well, but the husband takes the visionary leadership in instructing the family.

The gospel restores fatherhood by God giving Himself back to us through the restoring work of Jesus Christ. I'm in a neighborhood where there is a 90 percent single parent home rate. So I feel it a lot more overtly than most.

Trevin Wax: You talk about the need for discipleship to include the cultivation of a biblical worldview. What are some of the ways we can prioritize the renewing of the mind as well as the spirit?

Eric Mason: Good question. I teach a great deal on discipleship and I didn't put it all in this book because I'm going to work on another book that will include a full body ministry of discipleship.

Still, I was fascinated by how much the Bible talks about the mind being renewed. Ephesians 4:23 talks about being renewed in the spirit of your mind. 1 Corinthians 2 – the last few verses – talk about having the mind

(Continued from p. 1)

Men are called to be **equipped with the Scriptures**. In II Tim. 3:16-17 the Apostle Paul reminds Timothy that men of God will only be competent for battle and for effectiveness in days of evil if they are contending for the faith. What will help us as men take our stand in every situation (at home, at church, at our places of employment?)

The only way to strengthen our resolve against compromise and corruption is to let the word of Christ dwell in us richly. (Col. 3:16)

Let me urge all the men in our church to take advantage of the opportunities to learn, pray (and be prayed for) and be challenged in the

Scriptures at Men in the Morning, Thursday night discussions, and Friday Night volleyball outreach/fellowship opportunities. (Ideas suggested by Chapter 2 of [Men of God, Becoming the man God wants you to be](#): The Good Book Co. 2011)

Pastor Mark Musser,

of Christ. Romans 12: 1-2 talks about it. And even in the Old Testament in Ezekiel 30:25-27 you look at how the gospel restores our heart and in restoring our heart, we get a new mind.

How do we cultivate the new mind? Forming the mind of Christ with the Word of God through discipleship. That means discipleship is just not one on one; it's everything that is provided through the local church to the people of God, and that means every aspect of equipping – from the pulpit to small groups to going on mission trips to men's time – all those things play a role in discipling. One of the main formats of discipleship in the New Testament are the "one anothers."

Jesus says that in order to be a disciple you have to deny yourself. That means denying your preferences and embracing God's way of doing things based on the Word of God. So how do we prioritize things? Deny self, pick up the cross daily and follow Him in ways that create in us a greater sense of a transformation of our way of thinking into His way of thinking.

Trevin Wax: You devote a section of your book to restored sexuality. What are the particular temptations we are facing today and how does the gospel aid us in our fight against sexual sin?

Eric Mason: Men believe lies that go back to worldview and strongholds. I have a message on strongholds out of Judges 6 that defines strongholds as things that assert themselves against the knowledge of God (2 Corinthians 10). This belief that the enemy has a better handle on sexuality than God causes us to give ourselves over to fallen forms of sex because we don't believe God has our good in mind even though He created the whole thing. That's why in 1 Corinthians, Paul utilizes the gospel as the means by which we're motivated to have sanctified sex and move away from illicit forms. In the book, I talk in detail about some practical ways to embrace a gospel centered worldview as it relates to sex, because I think everything is a belief issue.

Check out the first chapter of the book by clicking here: [Manhood Restored Pastor Eric Mason Chapter 1](#)

Trevin Wax is the Managing Editor of The Gospel Project, a curriculum developed by LifeWay Christian Resources. He blogs daily at Kingdom People. He is also the author of *Holy Subversion* (Crossway, 2010) and *Counterfeit Gospels* (Moody, 2011).



The men's ministry exists to provide a "safe place" for adult men 18 years and over to "be themselves", sharing their joys and fears, defeats and victories. We bond with and build up one another by enhancing the bonds of unity among men. We establish spiritual growth through prayer, worship, fellowship and biblical teaching; this empowers men to have a strong spiritual relationship with Jesus Christ. We will equip men for the Christian life so that we become spiritual role models at home, work, in the community and at church.

We meet every other Saturday at 8:00 am. Led by Walter Roeder.

JULY 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Soccer Camp 2013	2 Soccer Camp 2013	3 Soccer Camp 2013 Mid-Week Bible Study and Prayer	4 Soccer Camp 2013	5 Soccer Camp 2013 Fusion (Grades 6-8) Youth Group Roeder/Losak Growth Group Ignite (grades 9-12) Youth Group	6
7 Worship Service	8	9	10 Mid-Week Bible Study and Prayer	11	12 Fusion (Grades 6-8) Youth Group Ignite (grades 9-12) Youth Group	13 Men In The Morning
14 Worship Service	15	16	17 Mid-Week Bible Study and Prayer	18	19 Fusion (Grades 6-8) Youth Group Roeder/Losak Growth Group Ignite (grades 9-12) Youth Group	20
21 Worship Service	22	23	24 Mid-Week Bible Study and Prayer	25	26 Fusion (Grades 6-8) Youth Group Ignite (grades 9-12) Youth Group	27 Men In The Morning
28 Worship Service	29	30	31 Mid-Week Bible Study and Prayer			