



A Balanced Church

MAIN THING

The Best Way To Reach The Family Is Through Reaching Men

SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 2:1-4, Mark 1:16-18, Romans 12:1-2, Matthew 9:1-7

ICEBREAKER

When you think of stereotypical “manly men” images, who comes to mind? Who is the manliest man of all time?

OPENING THOUGHT

The research has been consistent for decades- when it comes to reaching the family, men are essential. Percentages vary, but ballpark figures show that when a child comes to Christ, the rest of the family follows around 5% of the time. When the mom comes to Christ, the rest of the family follows about 30% of the time. When the dad comes to Christ, the rest of the family follows around 90% of the time. Reasons for this vary, but the plain and simple fact is every study shows this remarkable truth. However, men tend to be missing from churches. One out of every five married Christian women goes to church without her husband on Sundays, and women tend to outnumber men in church two or three to one. If the church wants to get serious about reaching the world for Christ, reaching men seems to be one of the biggest, and neglected, strategies.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. If a friend were to ask you, ‘What was one thing your pastor said in his sermon on Sunday?’ what would you say?
2. We identified three things that are key to reaching men with the gospel- 1) We must call men to a purpose, not a set of rules, 2) We must call men to sacrifice, not languish in comfort and mediocrity, and 3) We must restore the missing man. Which of these spoke to you the most and why?
3. Baltimore has been a city in crisis for a long time. In the sermon, you heard the writer say, “If you want to destroy a people, first break their men.” Do you agree with his statement? Why or why not?

LIFE APPLICATION

The sermon identified “DELI- Disciple, Engage, Lead, Influence” as the role men should have in the church and in their homes. Pastor Voddie Bauchum said, “The church does not meet as often as the home. Thus, if Christ is to be worshipped daily, it is incumbent upon the home to play an important spiritual role. Consequently, fathers, as heads of households, are thrust into a pastoral role.” Men, do you feel equipped to do that?

Brainstorm as a group how the men in the group can become pastors in their homes. If you are a single mom or live alone, how can you take on that pastoral role in your home?

CHALLENGE

Men, hear the words from David to his son and take them to heart. Make them your life motto from this point forward: ““When the time drew near for David to die, he gave a charge to Solomon his son. 2 “I am about to go the way of all the earth,” he said. “So be strong, act like a man, 3 and observe what the Lord your God requires: Walk in obedience to him, and keep his decrees and commands, his laws and regulations, as written in the Law of Moses. Do this so that you may prosper in all you do and wherever you go 4 and that the Lord may keep his promise to me: ‘If your descendants watch how they live, and if they walk faithfully before me with all their heart and soul, you will never fail to have a successor on the throne of Israel.’”