

SESSION #18 - BIBLICAL MANHOOD: SEASONS

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In the last two sessions we discussed the Four Faces of Manhood. Your manhood can't be just one-dimensional but needs to be able to express itself appropriately given different situations.
2. Those on the path of Authentic Manhood are not only aware of different situations in their life, but they are also aware of different _____ of life.
3. In this session, we'll look at the life stages of a man. What should life look like in your twenties? Or forties? Or seventies and beyond? We'll discover some helpful principles that can guide you through each stage of life and the unique battles you'll face along the way.

II. KEY IDEAS

1. _____ engineering.
 - Begin with the **end** in mind.
 - _____ the lives of Godly men before us.
2. The Power of _____.
 - Men who have already experienced the season we're in right now.
3. Anticipate **Transition**.
 - Wise to _____ for major transitions.
 - Help _____ through transitions as well.
4. The Laws of the Harvest.
 - We reap what we sow.
 - We reap **more** than we sow.
 - We reap in a different **season** than we sow.

III. SPRING | AGE 0 TO 20 - IDENTITY

1. In this season a man comes to terms with his _____.
2. The key to this stage is transitioning to adulthood well.
3. The key questions of this stage:
 - Who am I?
 - Who am I not?

IV. SUMMER | AGE 20 TO 40 – LEARNING AND GROWING

1. Potential Dangers of your 20's:
 - Getting lost in extended _____ is not an option for Authentic Manhood.
 - Handling **sexual** energy:
 - “For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God.” 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5 [ESV]
2. The major opportunity of your 20's: _____, _____, _____!
3. The key questions for your 20's:
 - What do I want out of life?
 - Where will I distinguish myself professionally?
 - How am I different from my parents?
 - What do I really believe?
 - What skills do I need to develop?
 - Around what person or conviction will I organize my life?
4. The major opportunity of your 30's: _____.
5. A key word to remember during your 30's: **margin**.
 - Without margin, _____ are compromised.
6. Key questions for your 30's:
 - How do I _____ the demands made on my life?
 - Have I allowed enough time for a spiritual life and authentic relationships?

V. FALL | AGE 40 TO 60 - INFLUENCE

1. There can be a great _____ in this season.
2. Key questions for this stage:
 - Have I **achieved** everything I wanted?
 - Do I have dreams that are unfulfilled?
 - Can my mistakes be redeemed?
 - Are my **accomplishments** fulfilling?
3. The major danger of this season is a mid-life _____.
4. The great opportunity of this season can be summed up in one word: influence.
 - David Levinson calls men between the ages of 45-60 the “dominant generation.” Levinson says that the guys in this season create and implement the governing ideas in every sector of society – whether it’s politics, business, religion, art, or science.

VI. WINTER | AGE 60 AND BEYOND – SAGE

1. Marked by _____, experience and respect.
2. The greatest danger of this season is for a man to buy the lie that he can no longer **contribute**.
3. The major opportunity of this season is to take advantage of your _____.

VII. CONCLUSION

1. Regardless of the season of life you are in, as men, we are all called to create and cultivate – not just for a particular season, but for our entire life.
2. We are called to follow the example of Jesus.
3. We are created to live a life of truth, passion, and purpose.
4. As men on a journey toward Authentic Manhood, we now know how to do that.
 - Reject passivity
 - Accept responsibility
 - Lead courageously
 - Invest eternally

ANSWERS:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In the last two sessions we discussed the Four Faces of Manhood. Your manhood can't be just one-dimensional but needs to be able to express itself appropriately given different situations.
2. Those on the path of Authentic Manhood are not only aware of different situations in their life, but they are also aware of different **seasons** of life.

II. KEY IDEAS

1. **Reverse** engineering.
 - Begin with the **end** in mind.
 - **Examine** the lives of Godly men before us.
2. The Power of **mentorship**.
3. Anticipate **transition**.
 - Wise to **plan** for major transitions.
4. We reap what we sow.
 - We reap **more** than we sow.
 - We reap in a different **season** than we sow.

III. SPRING | AGE 0 TO 20 - IDENTITY

1. In this season a man comes to terms with his **identity**.
2. The key to this stage is transitioning to adulthood well.
3. The key questions of this stage:
 - Who am I?
 - Who am I not?

IV. SUMMER | AGE 20 TO 40 – LEARNING AND GROWING

1. Potential Dangers of your 20's:
 - Getting lost in extended **adolescence** is not an option for Authentic Manhood.
2. The major opportunity of your 20's: **Learn, learn, learn!**
3. The key questions for your 20's:
4. The major opportunity of your 30's: **Growth**.

5. A key word to remember during your 30's: **margin**.
 - Without margin, **relationships** are compromised.
6. Key questions for your 30's:
 - How do I **prioritize** the demands made on my life?

V. FALL | AGE 40 TO 60 - INFLUENCE

1. There can be a great **harvest** in this season.
2. Key questions for this stage:
3. The major danger of this season is a mid-life **crisis**.

VI. WINTER | AGE 60 AND BEYOND – SAGE

1. Marked by **wisdom**, experience and respect.
2. The greatest danger of this season is for a man to buy the lie that he can no longer **contribute**.
3. The major opportunity of this season is to take advantage of your **flexibility**.