

SESSION #14 - BIBLICAL MANHOOD: CREATE AND CULTIVATE

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The manhood realities discussed in session one should be a startling _____ call for all of us.
2. We want to bring _____ to our confusion about manhood.

II. THE ORIGINAL MANHOOD DESIGN: CREATE AND CULTIVATE

1. In Chapter one of Genesis, we see God model _____ through two specific actions:
 - God _____.
 - God _____.
2. Genesis 1:27 "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God he created him." [ESV]
 - God intended man to be like _____.
3. Genesis 1:28 "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." [ESV]
 - God has given us a mandated _____ and _____.
4. God created men to be _____ and _____ leaders.
5. When men don't lead, _____ follows.
 - Consider the disorder and confusion that occurs in a home when a father abandons his responsibility to raise his children.
 - Statistically, children growing up in father-absent homes are far more likely to die in infancy, live in poverty, end up in prison, use drugs, be abused or drop out of school.
6. Masculinity is not about just being a _____ leader. It's about having the courage to just do it.

III. MISUNDERSTANDING GOD'S DESIGN

1. Adam _____ in these areas. He did not show the courage to lead.
 - Genesis 3:6 “So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes...she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.” [ESV]
2. There are two typical “misses” when it comes to experiencing God's best for our life.
 - 1) The way of the _____. [Genesis 3:6]
 - Adam and Eve chose their own way over God's _____.
 - 2) The way of the _____. [Genesis 3:7]
 - Those who try to _____ themselves with good behavior and try to _____ their way into God's favor.

IV. GOD'S SOLUTION

1. God _____ for Adam and Eve despite their sin.
 - Genesis 3:21 “and the Lord God made for Adam and his wife garments of skins and clothed them.” [ESV]
2. God has made provision for us through his son, _____.
3. Jesus not only models an inspiring masculinity; He also _____ us to live it ourselves.
4. Just like Adam and Eve, we are all _____.
5. Our sin is an _____ to a perfect and holy God.
6. Here is the good news, God gives us grace through Jesus:
 - Romans 5:8 “God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” [ESV]
 - Romans 3:22 “Righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.” [ESV]
 - 1 Timothy 2:5 “There is one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus.” [ESV]
7. Only by placing our trust in Jesus can we have salvation as well as the _____ that fuels the Authentic Manhood we're talking about.

V. MISUNDERSTANDING MANHOOD

The same misses of Adam and Eve, the fruit and the fig leaves, can show up in the “misses” of today’s conventional manhood.

1. Men who choose the way of the fruit become _____ consumers.
 - They become totally obsessed with _____.
 - 1 Corinthians 15:45 tells us that our model, Jesus, is a _____ spirit.
2. Men who choose the way of the fig leaves become _____ and _____.
 - They take pride in what they _____ do.
 - They would rather _____ than create.
3. Without a clear _____ of Authentic Manhood, we will all be tempted to be childish consumers or cowards and critics.

VI. CONCLUSION

1. How should we respond to God’s mandate for us to create & cultivate?
 - _____ Jesus for our salvation and look to Him as our model for Authentic Manhood.

Embrace the mandate today:

- Have courage to live it out at work according to how has wired you.
 - Be creative with your wife, cultivating that relationship by giving her something to anticipate.
 - Be a _____ for your kids by leading them as you passionately follow God.
2. This session was about the big picture of our manhood mandate. In the next session, we will explore a clear and compelling biblical definition of what it means to be a man.

DISCUSSION / REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. How are you creating and cultivating in the different roles in your life? As a husband? As a father? At work? As a friend? Are you being a “life-giving spirit” [1 Corinthians 15:45]?
2. Are you more tempted to run away from God towards the pleasures of this world (the way of the fruit) or are you more likely to impress God with your accomplishments (the way of the fig leaves)?
3. What has God provided for us through Jesus?
4. Is it easier for you to be a consumer or a critic?
5. Write down and share with your group your one or two **STRATEGIC MOVES** that you need to make in order to apply what you’ve learned in this session.

ANSWERS:

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The manhood realities discussed in session one should be a startling **wake-up** call for all of us.
2. We want to bring **clarity** to our confusion about manhood.

II. THE ORIGINAL MANHOOD DESIGN: CREATE AND CULTIVATE

1. In Chapter one of Genesis, we see God model **leadership** through two specific actions:
 - God **creates**.
 - God **cultivates**.
2. Genesis 1:27 “So God created man in His own image, in the image of God he created him.” [ESV]
 - God intended man to be like **him**.
3. Genesis 1:28 “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” [ESV]
 - God has given us a mandated **create** and **cultivate**.
4. God created men to be **social** and **spiritual** leaders.
5. When men don't lead, **chaos** follows.
6. Masculinity is not about just being a **natural born** leader. It's about having the courage to just do it.

III. MISUNDERSTANDING GOD'S DESIGN

1. Adam **failed** in these areas. He did not show the courage to lead.
2. There are two typical “misses” when it comes to experiencing God's best for our life.
 - 1) The way of the **fruit**. [Genesis 3:6]
 - Adam and Eve chose their own way over God's **will**.
 - 2) The way of the **fig leaves**. [Genesis 3:7]
 - Those who try to **cover** themselves with good behavior and try to **perform** their way into God's favor.

IV. GOD'S SOLUTION

1. God **cared** for Adam and Eve despite their sin.
2. God has made provision for us through his son, **Jesus**.
3. Jesus not only models an inspiring masculinity; He also **enables** us to live it ourselves.
4. Just like Adam and Eve, we are all **sinners**.
5. Our sin is an **offense** to a perfect and holy God.
6. Here is the good news, God gives us grace through Jesus (No fill in the Blank)
7. Only by placing our trust in Jesus can we have salvation as well as the **power** that fuels the Authentic Manhood we're talking about.

V. MISUNDERSTANDING MANHOOD

1. Men who choose the way of the fruit become **childish** consumers.
 - They become totally obsessed with **cheap thrills**.
 - 1 Corinthians 15:45 tells us that our model, Jesus, is a **life-giving** spirit.
2. Men who choose the way of the fig leaves become **cowards** and **critics**.
 - They take pride in what they **don't** do.
 - They would rather **criticize** than create.
3. Without a clear **understanding** of Authentic Manhood, we will all be tempted to be childish consumers or cowards and critics.

VI. CONCLUSION

1. How should we respond to God's mandate for us to create & cultivate?
 - **Trust** Jesus for our salvation and look to Him as our model for Authentic Manhood.

Embrace the mandate today:

- Have courage to live it out at work according to how has wired you.
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