

Journey 2 Manhood (J2M)

Week 2

A Ministry of Hill Country Bible Church NW
Austin, Texas

Who Is Your Son?

Your Son

- The Bible has 2 Primary goals for boys:
 - That they will know their heavenly father.
 - That they will know their earthly father.

By knowing their earthly father they are led to know their heavenly father.

An Image Bearer of God

- That is the most significant thing that can ever be said about your son....

Genesis 1:26-27 “Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” ²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”

Nothing they do and nothing they will become will ever come close to the dignity and honor and the value they all ready have being an image bearer of God.

God himself attests to this in **Genesis 9:6** where God commands:
“Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed”,
(Why? What is the big deal, what's been lost when someone dies?) “*For in the image of God He made man.*”

What is lost when someone dies...an image bearer of God.

And **James 3:9** warns us about the dangers of the tongue because: “*With it we bless our Lord and Father; and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God;*”

C.S. Lewis wrote:

“That the dullest and most uninteresting person you can talk to may one day be a creature which, if you were to see it (as it will be) now, you would be highly tempted to worship.... There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal, nations, cultures, arts, civilizations – these are mortal and their life is to ours the life of a gnat. But it is immortals whom we joke with, work with, marry, snub, and exploit.”

God is amazing, and wonderful and awesome and the fact that He has made our children in His image and put them here on the earth to be His image bearers is the highest source of the value of your children and it is the primary reason that we should treat them with respect, dignity and value.

A gift from God

- *Psalm 127:3* “Children are a gift of the Lord; the fruit of the womb is his reward.

A sinner – just like you

- We are fallen... Unique Ways Boys Show That...
 - Prone to drift in destructive ways – Boys w/o boundaries cause more harm to themselves and others than girls do.
 - Tend to get caught up in the temporal at the expense of the eternal.
 - Tend toward isolation as opposed to community.
 - Struggle with morality more than girls do.

On the Verge of Manhood

- What Do Boys Need To Become Men?
- A clear transition from Boyhood to Manhood

“The lack of any rite of passage out of Childhood into Manhood had done significant damage to families where the parents are confused as to what they should be about with their sons and the boys are confused as to why they just can’t keep on living like a child.”
– Dr. Paul Warren

- A code of conduct

Boys need to be taught a code of conduct that fuses character traits with responsibilities in order for them to learn how to act out their role on being a man. This is particularly true when it comes to areas where our culture will give them negative or unclear messages.

A vision of manhood (Definition of Manhood that they see *lived out by us*)

Boys love Targets!

- A community of men who will hold them accountable

Prov. 21:16 "A man who wanders from the way of understanding will rest in the community of the dead"

Boys need to run into a variety of men who act as barriers to their desires to live foolishly.

- A transcendent cause

There is no cause more heroic than fighting evil, none more timeless than eternal and nothing more meaningful than advancing the kingdom of God

<i>"A man will lay down his life for his country, his society, his family. He will choose to throw himself on a grenade to save his comrades; he is capable of the highest generosity and self-sacrifice. But he has to feel and believe that what he is doing is truly heroic, timeless, and supremely meaningful. – Ernest Becker as quoted in "Raising a Modern Day Knight."</i>
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(Matt. 6:33 "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.")

- A sense of proficiency and adequacy for what lies ahead

Not only must a boy be trained what is right but how to live out what is right in a world that will often misunderstand seek to take advantage of him when he does so. (2 Cor. 3:5-6 / 2 Tim. 3:17)

Defining A Man

We must give them a definition of manhood that they can join us in pursuing.

I Cor. 13:11 “When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me.”

A Real man: (From Last Week)

- Rejects Passivity
- Accepts Responsibility
- Leads Courageously
- Expects the Greater Reward, God’s Reward

Week 2 Discussion Questions (before the talk)

Based on your evaluation, what area do you most need to invest in your son’s life?

What area do you need to grow the most in?

What is your biggest goal for yourself?

What is your biggest goal for your son?

Week 2 Discussion Questions (after the talk)

What has helped you the most in having spiritual conversations with your son so far?

What aspects of discipling your son do you find the most exciting and the most intimidating?

Which part of the definition of manhood or goal you have set for yourself or your son do you see the most benefit in having the help of other men?

Milestone #3

Contact 3 of the 5 father/son pairs that you have listed on the J2M Evaluation Tool from Week 1 to:

- a. Discuss their interest in partnering with you and your son in J2M
- b. Invite them to join you next week if they have not attended

Homework:

Create a list of activities you think you and your son would both enjoy doing together.