

## SESSION #6: MEN AND MENTORS

“Social, emotional, and spiritual blindspots and/or deficits caused by a lack of healthy male comradeship that results over time in foolish actions, serious setbacks, and a short-sighted masculinity.”

### I. EVERY MAN BENEFITS FROM THE COMPANY OF OTHER MEN.

A. The friendless American male.

B. The significant downside to isolation.

1. No challenge. (You develop a warped perspective on life.)
2. No accountability. (You allow yourself privileges you wouldn't allow others.)
3. No cheerleaders. (You lose motivation for the critical areas of life.)
4. No intimacy. (You lose transparency.)

C. What the Scriptures have to say:

1. Proverbs 27:17 *“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.”*
2. Proverbs 18:24 *“A man of many companions may come to ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.”*
3. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 *“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!”*
4. Hebrews 10:24 *“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.”*

D. What you can do:

1. Reach out to other men.
2. Challenge a man at a deeper level.
3. Pick someone you can enjoy life with.

## II. EVERY MAN BENEFITS FROM THE COMPANY OF A MENTOR.

A. From Dad to whom?

B. The difference between discipleship and mentoring.

1. Discipleship focuses on instruction.

2. Mentoring is about initiation.

C. Characteristics of a mentor.

1. Supports rather than competes with you.

2. A cheerleader, not a critic.

3. Helps develop your gifts while seeking to protect you from costly mistakes.

4. One who encourages.

5. One who admires and delights in you because he instinctively recognizes your value and untapped potential.

D. Biblical examples of mentoring and mentors.

## QUESTIONS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

1. Who are the male heroes in your life?
2. What men, other than your dad, made a significant, personal contribution to your life?
3. Have you ever had a mentor? Explain.
4. Is there a man (or men) who is watching out for you now?

(All scripture taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version by International Bible Society unless otherwise noted.  
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