a movement of men transforming families & churches to the ends of the earth

MANHOOD TODAY - Keith Boggs

Colossians 1:24-2:10 Christ in you the hope of glory, [1:28] Him we...

Preach - proclaim throughout, declare

Warning – keep nothing back (Acts 20:20) – admonish, instruct, exhort

Teaching – teach, instruct

Present – stand near, be at, be in front of, stand by, help

To this end I also <u>Labor</u> – toil, be tired, grow weary

Striving – struggle, fight, contend for a prize

According to His working that Works – be at work, cause to function, bring about

In me Mightily – ability, power, supernatural power, strength

MANHOOD TODAY - The Spoil - lest anyone cheat you

MANHOOD TODAY - The Secularization – through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world

MANHOOD TODAY - The Sadness – and not according to Christ

Psalm 12:1

Help LORD, for the godly man ceases! For the faithful disappear among the sons of men.

Ceases – stops, come to an end

Disappear – vanish

Psalm 144:3-5,

Lord, what is man, that You take knowledge of him? Or the son of man, that You are mindful of him? ⁴ Man is like a breath; His days are like a passing shadow.

⁵ Bow down Your heavens, O Lord, and come down:

1. Some realities in this room tonight...

A. As men, we have a lot in <u>common</u>.

Genesis 2:7, And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being (KJV soul).

You've been made by God and you've been made for God and until you surrender and buy into you'll never be the man God called you to be.

- B. I really think that we all want to be better men.
- Some of us feel good about where we are right now, but also want to keep growing.

God/Family/Church

Some of us have important manhood questions –

"What do I need to know that I don't?"

God/Family (marriage/parenting) /Church

"What should be my top priorities?"

focus, energy, influence, etc.

"How do I live without regrets?"

- Some of us need practical help with our marriages, our kids, work, habits, friends, and spiritual life.
- ...Your wife is distant... maybe you want a wife
- ... Children are distant, disconnected, even distracted
- ...Feel disconnected from the church not even sure if they want you, much less need you
- ... Am I really making a difference: community/work
- Some of us are struggling and need a new direction.
- ... Need a Word from God
- ... Need a friend to walk with you through this season
- ...Courage to face what you're facing

2. So How Are Men Doing Today?

Proverbs 20:6, Most men will proclaim each his own goodness, but who can find a faithful man?

Own Goodness – There are many men that proclaim

How loyal they are How committed they are How supportive they are

I call this posturing... and every one of us do it...

Posture -

- -how one holds their body when standing or sitting
- -behavior that is intended to impress or mislead.

We adopt a position and make "a show" of it... even if it does not reflect your true beliefs. It's a holier than thou behavior...
It's also very hypocritical...

God thunders back... Who can find a faithful man!?

[1] Some men have found a manhood that works.

A MANHOOD that truly works is <u>life-giving</u>.

1 Corinthians 15:45, And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." (Gen 2:7) The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

"Life-giving" is the word the Bible uses to describe the manhood of Jesus.

Gives Takes
Helpful Critical
Quickens Quenches
Anointed Abusive
Passionate Pathetic
Certain Complacent

Transformational Toxic

- People are encouraged by it.
- Women and wives feel safe and valued around it.
- Families thrive with it.
- Sons are drawn to it.
- Daughters delight in it.
- The workplace and community benefit because of it.

When men win, everybody wins!

[2] Some men live in a manhood "fog".

[3] Some men live in a manhood "struggle".

- They settle for less in life, but don't know it's less.
- They create <u>problems</u> ... lots of them!
- They guess at their masculinity and hope it works.

3. Four Challenges Men Face Today

[1] The loss of a common manhood vision.

Without vision, we live in "no-man's land."

Proverbs 29:18.

Without revelation people **run wild**, but one who follows divine instruction will be happy.

Without vision, we are left to "make up" manhood for ourselves.

Proverbs 12:15.

The way of a fool is **right in his own eyes**, But he who heeds counsel is wise.

If you don't own your manhood, Satan is sure to see that someone or something else will.

[2] The rise of a "weightless" manhood.

It is created by the emotionally and/or physically <u>absent</u> dad. This loss of dad is significant...

A boy will be what a boy can see.

- Dad's presence gives a son emotional stability: love and affirmation.
- Dad's instruction gives a son directional stability: moral convictions and practical skills.

Proverbs 17:6, The glory (WEIGHT) of sons is their fathers.

[Tackling Dummy]

- "Weightless" manhood unleashes a host of problems.
- It is an epidemic in America today.
- In 1960, only 5% of boys in America were fatherless; today it's 41%.
 - Paul Taylor, The Next America, Pew Foundation, Public Affairs, 2014, p.114

The 3rd Challenge Men Face Going Forward... [3] A radically changed, rapidly changing social landscape.

- The last 50+ years have been socially breathtaking:
- ...Roles for men and women have increasingly merged.
- ...The definition of marriage was changed for the first time in over 4,000 years.
- ... Some 44% of millennials now consider marriage "obsolete".
 - Pew Research (March 9, 2011) For Millennials, Parenthood Trumps Marriage
- ...Cohabitation has exploded. For the first time in American history, there are more unmarried adults than married. Pew Research (June 27, 2011) Prevalence and Growth of Cohabitation
- ...A majority of children (61%) born to mothers under 30, are born outside marriage.

 For Women Under 30, Most Births Occur Outside of Marriage NY Times (Feb. 17, 2012)
- ...There are now multiple gender categories, not just male and female.
- ...**Sexual standards** have dramatically changed.
- ... Women now outnumber men in college by over 30% and earn more advanced degrees.

- ... Women now make up the majority of enrollees in law and medical schools.
- ...There are now 7 million working age men in the United States who don't work.

Men Without Work American Enterprise Institute (January 30, 2018)

- ... More women are managers in the workplace than men.
- ...Single women buy their own homes today at twice the rate of single men.

Make It (May 11, 2018) CNBC

- ...Depression rates have increased tenfold among men since 1960.
- ...Women shoulder most of the responsibility for the health and vitality of the Christian faith in the United States Barna.com, "What Women Think of Faith, Leadership, and Their Role in the Church," part 1 of 4, Research Releases in Culture and Media, August 13, 2012

[4] The lies men believe about themselves.

As men, we often make the mistake of processing (thinking through) our lives alone.

- I should know what to do.
- I'm the only one who struggles with this.
- It's too late to do anything about this.
- I can do this and no one will ever know.
- If I tell you the truth about myself, you will reject me.

A MANHOOD THAT WILL WORK FOR YOU/ME (FOR US) IN THE MODERN WORLD... will require that YOU/ME/WE

Reject Passivity
Expect God to Move
Accept Responsibility
Lead Courageously

Some Guiding Principles over these next few months...

- [1] Seek to increase your understanding about Biblical Manhood by connecting to God and connecting to other men.
- [2] Ask God to use His Word each week as it is taught and receive helpful insight and support from those around your table.
- [3] Make new friends, become a part of the brotherhood.
- [4] As a man, seek to grow and mature in your relationship with God, your family, and the church to the ends of the earth.

There must be ownership and obedience!

Teach on Biblical manhood topics Round-table discussions

What your MANHOOD looks outside the Magnolia Room is entirely up to you!

But listen to me... My prayer is that you will be challenged to be a Man of God... the Man of God for your family (whatever that looks like) and the Man of God for our church (whatever that looks like).

ARE YOU UP TO THE CHALLENGE?

HFY!

You were chosen by God... Your gender was intelligently designed by The Wonderful Counselor, The Prince of Peace, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father... He didn't make a mistake... SHOW YOURSELE A MAN

You've been Chosen for this Time Day Family Church Condition Country

Be the man God made you to be...

Be a man who No Longer...

- ...hides from the past
- ...feels worthless
- ...holds back
- ... allows for immorality
- ...is a weak leader
- ...goes through the motions
- ...leaves Jesus behind
- ... compromises integrity
- ...accepts mediocre marriage
- ...accepts passive fathering
- ...goes alone
- ...punches the clock
- ...does business as usual
- ...stands on the sideline

MANHOOD TODAY Requires:

- humility
- honesty
- accountability

Be Watchful.

Stand firm in the faith

Act Like Men

Be Strong

Let all that you do be done in love.

TABLE QUESTIONS...

Your Table Discussion Questions

- 1. Why did you come tonight? What are you hoping will happen because you came?
- 2. Which one of the lies have you been believing? Why?