

# FAMILY 101 – WANTED: A Few Good Men

*Pastor Jason Dennett's Notes*

**Men's Health Magazine:** *"The average male is 5' 9" tall and 173 pounds. Is married, 1.8 years older than his wife and would marry her again. Has not completed college. Earns \$28,605 per year. Prefers showering to taking a bath. Spends about 7.2 hours a week eating. Does not know his cholesterol count, but it's 211. Watches 26 hours and 44 minutes of TV a week. Takes out the garbage in his household. Cries about once a month--one fourth as much as Jane Doe. Falls in love an average of six times during his life. Eats his corn on the cob in circles, not straight across, and prefers his steak medium. Can't whistle by inserting his fingers in his mouth. Prefers that his toilet tissue unwind over, rather than under, the spool. Will not stop to ask for directions when he's in the car."*

*"What's wrong with America? Lousy leadership. Not just in government or politics but in the business, labor, service, and manufacturing fields. Education and other big institutions and the media too highlight a crisis in leadership especially among men." -*  
***The Boston Globe***

*"One theme that comes through loud and clear: the male is in crisis, buffeted by the woman's movement, constrained by a traditional and internalized definition of masculinity. Men literally don't know who they are, what women want from them, or even what they want from themselves." -* ***Jim Levine***

Is a "**Real Man**" a Fighter? Aggressive? Macho? Passive?  
Retrained? Quiet? Combination?

Regarding "Real Men", the Real Question is: "**What does GOD say a 'Real Man' is?**"

**Jesus Christ:** He was real, gentle, sweet, but also rebuked hypocrites, and even flipped tables in the Temple!

National Magazine survey about what is a real man: Jesus received more votes than anyone else: caring attitude, intelligence, admirable morality, sensitivity to other

**I. Jesus is a Man of SUBMISSION (v.5-7) - "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, [and] coming in the likeness of men."**

Jesus chose to live as a man SUBMITTED to the Father, as preeminently displayed in His incarnation when He became a Man!

- The word "**submission**" is the Greek word "**hypotasso**" - a military word, meaning "**to keep under rank and file, to hold the proper order.**"
- **The captain of the ship looked into the dark night and saw faint lights in the distance.** Immediately he told his signalman to send a message: "Alter your course 10 degrees south." Promptly a return message was received: "Alter your course 10 degrees north." The captain was angered; his command had been ignored. So he sent a second message: "Alter your course 10 degrees south--I am the captain!" Soon another message was received: "Alter your course 10 degrees north--I am seaman third class Jones." Immediately the captain sent a third message, knowing the fear it would evoke: "Alter your course 10 degrees south--I am a battleship." Then the reply came "Alter your course 10 degrees north--I am a lighthouse."
- **1 Sam 15:23** - "For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, And stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry."
- Though He is God the Son, Jesus submitted constantly during His life:
  - To His earthly father - Luke 2:52
  - To His Heavenly Father - Matt 26:39

Are YOU a big enough Man to SUBMIT to the Lord??

## **II. Jesus is a Man of HUMILITY (v.8) - "And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself.."**

Jesus chose to live as a man, in a life of **HUMILITY**...though He is God the Son!

- Here the word "**humbled**" is the Greek word "**tapeinoō**" meaning "**to bring one's self down, to abase one's self, to lower your self.**"

We could easily say then, that **HUMILITY** is all about **HONESTY**. Just being honest about who you are...and who you're not!

- **Matt 11:28-30** - *"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."*
- **Booker T. Washington, the renowned black educator, was an outstanding example of this truth.** *Shortly after he took over the presidency of Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, he was walking in an exclusive section of town when he was stopped by a wealthy white woman. Not knowing the famous Mr. Washington by sight, she asked if he would like to earn a few dollars by chopping wood for her. Because he had no pressing business at the moment, Professor Washington smiled, rolled up his sleeves, and proceeded to do the humble chore she had requested. When he was finished, he carried the logs into the house and stacked them by the fireplace. A little girl recognized him and later revealed his identity to the lady. The next morning the embarrassed woman went to see Mr. Washington in his office at the Institute and apologized profusely. "It's perfectly all right, Madam," he replied. "Occasionally I enjoy a little manual labor. Besides, it's always a delight to do something for a friend."*
- **1 Pet 5:5-9** - *"...be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble." 6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the*

devil walks about like a roaring lion, **seeking whom he may devour.** 9 Resist him.."

- **Samuel Morse who was once asked if he ever encountered situations where he didn't know what to do.** Morse responded, "More than once, and whenever I could not see my way clearly, I knelt down and prayed to God for light and understanding." Morse received many honors from his invention of the telegraph but felt undeserving: "I have made a valuable application of electricity not because I was superior to other men but solely because God, who meant it for mankind, must reveal it to someone and He was pleased to reveal it to me."

Are **YOU** a big enough Man to walk in **HUMILITY** with the Lord??

### **III. Jesus is a Man of OBEDIENCE (v.8) - "..and became obedient.."**

Jesus chose to live as a man, in absolute and perfect **OBEDIENCE** to the Father!

- **John 8:29** - "The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him."
- **John 15:10,14** - "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love... You are My friends if you do whatever I command you."
- **James 2:14-20** - "What [does it] profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, "Depart in peace, be warmed and filled," but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what [does it] profit? 17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. 18 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. 19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe--and tremble! 20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?"
- **Matt 7:21-23** - "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My

*Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'*

Are **YOU** a big enough Man to **OBEY** the Lord??

#### **IV. Jesus is a Man of the WILL OF GOD (v.8) - "*..to the point of death..*"**

Jesus chose to be a man Who found and did **GOD'S WILL** above all else in His life! He fulfilled His mission of DYING for the sins of the world!

- His Death was prophesied for the beginning: Gen 3:15; Gen 22; Exo 12; Isa 53; Psalm 22; Zech 13,...
- **John 15:13** - "Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends."
- Christ calls **YOU** to find God's Will: "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." - *Luke 9:23*
- The Lord has a special mission and plan, just for **YOU**: "*For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*" - *Ephesians 2:10*
- **ILLUSTRATION:** *Most men HATE to get lost.....by GPS....or by compass!!*

Are YOU lost in this world, due to following YOUR will rather than GOD'S WILL?

- **Prov 14:12** - "*There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.*"

Are **YOU** a big enough Man to discover & pursue **GOD'S WILL**??

#### **V. Jesus is a Man of SERVICE (v.8) - "*..even the death of the cross.*"**

Jesus chose to be a man who lived a life of SERVICE unto God's people.

He displayed this during the Last Supper, when He washed the

disciples feet - the job of the lowest slave! (John 13:1-20)

John 10:11 - "I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep."

2 Cor 5:21 - "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

Jesus wants us to follow in His example of SERVICE, as men of God: "Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant." - Matt 20:26

*A famous Roman aqueduct at Segovia in Spain, was built in 109 A.D. For eighteen hundred years, it carried cool water from the mountains to the hot and thirsty city. Nearly sixty generations of men drank from its flow. Then came another generation, a recent one, who said, "This aqueduct is so great a marvel that it ought to be preserved for our children, as a museum piece. We shall relieve it of its centuries-long labor." They did; they laid modern iron pipes. They gave the ancient bricks and mortar a reverent rest. And the aqueduct began to fall apart. The sun beating on the dry mortar caused it to crumble. The bricks and stone sagged and threatened to fall. Though it was used for over a thousand years without damage, it was destroyed thru idleness and disintegrated by a lack of service.*

Are YOU a big enough Man to SERVE the Lord??

### **APPLICATIONAL QUESTIONS:**

- What can you change in your attitude to be submissive to the leaders in your life?
- Where are the areas of your thinking where you need to exercise more humility?
- Are you a man characterized by obeying God's Word for your life?
- Have you found God's Will for your life? Are you willing to discover it?

If you aren't currently serving the Lord, why not? What is holding you back?