

**Unpopular Opinion** February 26, 2023  
*Abundant Life in a Broken World*

*We believe the Bible is our foundation, absolute truth; that Jesus is Truth*

**John 14:6 AMP** Jesus said to him, “I am the only Way to God & the real Truth, & the real Life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”

**Colossians 2:8 MSG** Watch out for people who try to dazzle you w/ big words & intellectual double-talk. They want to drag you off into endless arguments that never amount to anything. They spread their ideas through the empty traditions of human beings & the empty superstitions of spirit beings. But that’s not the way of Christ.

*There’s a God & His name is Jesus.  
There’s forgiveness of sin - His name is Jesus.  
There’s purpose for your future - His name is Jesus.  
There’s healing for your marriage - His name is Jesus.  
There’s a plan for your children - His name is Jesus.  
There’s a hope for our community, nation, the world - His name is Jesus.*

**FAMILY VALUES**

**Joshua 24:15b** ...*But as for me & my family, we will serve the Lord.*

**Matthew 7:24** “Anyone who listens to My teaching & follows it (*does it*) is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. 25 Though the **rain** comes in torrents & the **floodwaters** rise & the **winds beat** against that house, it won’t collapse because it is built on bedrock (*founded on the Rock*).”

***HOW TO BUILD YOUR FAMILY ON THE ROCK***

- 1.** *Surrender your life & your family to the Lordship of Jesus & His Word.*
- 2.** *Trust God as your Heavenly Father to meet your needs & care for you.*
- 3.** *Keep yourself & your family in a Bible preaching & believing church where you all will be grounded spiritually & build strong relationships.*

***God doesn’t build you up to tear you down.  
What God builds is built to last.***

**BIBLICAL MANHOOD - God’s role for men**

*\*Where did you get your vision of a man? Dad, Grandpa,  
James Bond, LeBron James, Musician, Instagram influencer, etc.*

**Genesis 1:26 AMP** Then God said, “Let Us (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) make *man* in Our image, according to Our likeness [not physical, but a spiritual personality & moral likeness]; let them have complete authority over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the cattle, & over the entire earth, & over everything that creeps & crawls on the earth.” 27 So God created *man* in His own image, in the image & likeness of God He created him; *male & female* He created them. 28 And God blessed them [granting them certain authority] & said to them, “Be fruitful, multiply, & fill the earth, & subjugate it [putting it under your power]; & rule over (dominate) the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, & every living thing that moves upon the earth.”

**Genesis 2:7** Then the Lord God formed the *man* from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man’s nostrils, & the *man* became a living person.

*We have to see ourselves the way God sees us! Weak men are a problem.*

*Our social culture is influenced & dominated by weak, passive, woke, inactive, workless men; who are lacking conviction & God’s purpose!*

*Let’s get our families, community & Christianity in the hands of Jesus loving, Bible believing, Holy Spirit filled, church attending, faithful, heterosexual, job-working men, husbands, & fathers.*

**Psalms 8:3 AMP** When I see & consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon & the stars, which You have established, 4 What is *man* that You are mindful of him, & the son of earthborn man that You care for him? 5 Yet You’ve made him a little lower than God (*angels*), You’ve crowned him w/ glory & honor. 6 You made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You’ve put all things under his feet, 7 All sheep & oxen, & also the beasts of the field, 8 The birds of the air, & the fish of the sea, whatever passes through the paths of the seas. 9 O Lord, our Lord, How majestic & glorious & excellent is Your name in all the earth!

*Men, you’re more important than you think you are, more valuable than you think you are. You’re more significant & more rare than you think!*

*Your life matters. Your mission matters, Your decisions matter. Your marriage matter. Your children matter. Your grandchildren matter. God loves you w/ a Father’s heart. God has a destiny for you as His son. God has things to be done by you, that only you can do.*

**Psalms 119:73** You made me; You created me. Now give me the sense to follow Your commands.

*You’ve been told just sit back, complain, be a victim, be passive, be weak, let somebody else take care of you. But if we don’t pay attention, we’ll allow sexual & gender nonsense determine our identity & our future.*

*So...*

*Get w/ your Heavenly Father through prayer & His Word. Get His Spirit, get His courage, get His confidence, His calling. And get active!*

**Joshua 1:8** Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day & night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper & succeed in all you do. 9 This is my command - be strong & courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is w/ you wherever you go.

*Men: you are prized, & an irreplaceable part of the Holy Spirit's ministry through the church. I know you feel beat up. I know you feel discouraged. Anxious. Fearful. Don't let that demonic lie from satan cause you to be passive - God has called you to be like His Son, Jesus.*

**1 Corinthians 16:13 AMP** Be on guard; stand firm in your faith in God, respecting His precepts & keeping your doctrine sound. Act like mature men & be courageous; be strong. 14 Let everything you do be done in love [*motivated & inspired by God's love for us*].

*Men, your identity is in God. You're not an orphan, you're a son... Stop believing the enemy & what culture says you are - you're NOT an orphan, not a problem, not a failure. You are a son. You're not damaged, you're adopted. Stand firm knowing you're adopted in Jesus.*

**Judges 6:11** Then the angel of the Lord came & sat beneath the great tree at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash of the clan of Abiezer. Gideon son of Joash was threshing wheat at the bottom of a winepress to hide the grain from the Midianites. 12 The angel of the Lord appeared to him & said, "Mighty hero (*brave warrior*), the Lord is w/ you!" 13 "Sir," Gideon replied, "if the Lord is w/ us, why has all this happened to us? And where are all the miracles our ancestors told us about? Didn't they say, 'The Lord brought us up out of Egypt'? But now the Lord has abandoned us & handed us over to the Midianites." 14 Then the Lord turned to him & said, "**Go w/ the strength you have**, & rescue Israel from the Midianites. I am sending you!" 15 "But Lord," Gideon replied, "how can I rescue Israel? My clan is the weakest in the whole tribe of Manasseh, & I am the least in my entire family!" 16 The Lord said to him, "I will be w/ you. And you will destroy the Midianites as if you were fighting against one man."

*God made you as men. You are God's men. Masculinity is not toxic. It's a sacred, God-given identity that we share with Jesus. You belong to your Father. You are loved & adopted & called by your Father. Get healthy, get active, & make a difference in the lives of those around you, for the glory of the Father...*

*Now...ask the Holy Spirit, "Where do I lead? Where do You want me to influence? Where do I take responsibility? How do I make a difference?"*