

Becoming (him)

Gregg Brenes

If you want something different, you have to take a different path.

When the time drew near for David to die, he gave a charge to Solomon his son. "I am about to go the way of all the earth," he said. "So be strong, act like a man..." 1 Kings 2:1-2

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 the ways of childhood behind me. 1 Cor. 13:11

In our culture, women are often viewed as a commodity.**God gives a higher view...****Love**

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34, 35

Give

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her... Ephesians 5:25

Respect

Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers. 1 Peter 3:7

Renew your mind to *think* differently.**Make up your mind to *behave* differently.****Connect**

What is something you enjoyed doing as a kid, but as you grew older, you felt you needed to limit your time doing or quit doing altogether?

Word and Reflection

In our culture, women are often as a commodity. Jesus' call to treat women with love, respect and honor seems countercultural at times. If we want our relationships and marriages to thrive, it's a truth we can't ignore. God values women and asks men to love, honor and respect them. This requires men and women to renew their minds to think differently and make up their minds to behave differently.

1 Kings 2:1-2; 1 Corinthians 13:11; John 13:34-35; Ephesians 5:25; 1 Peter 3:7; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8; 1 John 1:9

- Which part of the message made an impact, caught your attention or challenged you?
- Do you agree with Pastor Gregg's observation that women are often viewed, presented, talk about, sung about like a commodity in our culture? How do you think this cultural view has influenced you?
- Read 1 Peter 3:7. [Men] Why do you think it is difficult for many men to treat women with respect and honor? What would it look like for you to *assign honor* to the women in your life?
[Women] What intentional steps can you take to not present yourself as a commodity and/or endorse views that do?
- [Men] What practical steps can you take to renew your thinking and treat women with honor, as daughters of our Heavenly Father?
[Women] What practical steps can you take to renew your thinking to love and honor people in the same way Jesus showed love and honor to us?

Action

- What simple step will you take this week to love, honor and respect the people in your life in a greater way?

Prayer

- Ask God to give you a deeper love for people and to show you how to better honor and respect them.
- Pray for the people to whom you're reaching out.