

***Building a Godly Man***  
***(Overcoming the current attacks on the home)***  
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***Introduction:*** God knows how to build up His people

- A. The tragedy of our “educated” society is that in their pride they deny reality!
  - 1. God’s design is mocked and rejected as harmful.
  - 2. There are predictable fruits. **(Jer 2:11-13; Prov 30:11-14)**
- B. God richly provides us with “bulwarks” to overcome these false ways. **(Isa 26:1-3)**
  - 1. How can we build godly men? God reminded David of how He lifted him from being a shepherd to becoming a leader of God’s people! **(2 Sam 7:8-9)**
  - 2. What are the roles of those in the home and in the church?

***I. Fathers have a crucial role in the training up of their sons.***

- A. The tragedy of this age is the destruction of the father-son relationship. **(Heb 12:7-9)**
  - 1. Many mothers are never entering marriage or have been divorced. In many communities the vast majority of boys do not live with their dads.
  - 2. There are multigeneration families with no fathers in the home. **(Deut 5:9-10)**
- B. There are unique needs that a son has in his upbringing.
  - 1. In the beginning he is close and naturally attached to his mother. **(Prov 29:15)**
  - 2. As he grows older, he naturally will seek to grow closer to his father and wants to learn to be a man! **(Prov 4:1-5)**

***II. What are some common characteristics of men?***

- A. Men are different than women.
  - 1. Men’s bodies and brains are different as well as how they think. God made both male and female. **(Gen 1:27)**
  - 2. A man has tendencies that can be molded for good and bad. There are severe consequences for those who deny reality.
- B. Some general observations about men.
  - 1. A male’s orientation toward life tends to be outward. Consider these notes:  
• **Explorative.** • **Determined to “deliver the goods.”** • **Needs to know what’s next.** • **Opportunistic.**  
• **Takes chances.** • **Initiator.** • **Active and aggressive.** • **Competitive and dominant.**
  - 2. These tendencies are not evil but they do need to be brought under the control and guidance of God! **(Ps 37:3-5; 34:7-10; Jer 4:3-4)**
- C. In youth, they need to be understood as acting and thinking as a boy.
  - 1. This does not mean accepting bad behavior, but understanding with wisdom. **(Deut 6:5-9)**
  - 2. Boys are not evil because they are aggressive, physical, direct and competitive.
  - 3. Some “experts” want to make boys into girls and make them feel ashamed about their natural God-given abilities.
- D. Boys need to identify and connect with other men.

1. In their development in their youth then need to be with men and do things that are approved by those they respect. **(1 Cor 11:1; Heb 6:12)**
2. When I grew up my dad was the best man on earth. I loved to do things with him and to hear his praise. That respect is in my spirit today.

### **III. Raising sons with God's wisdom**

- A. Men are slower to develop and learn about relationships.
  1. The natural strengths of boys push them towards achievement and competition.
  2. Learning how to understand others and develop relationships is something that they must develop later. **(Mk 10:42-45; Prov 5:1-5, 20-23)**
- B. Boys can easily be caught up in what I call a "digital dungeon." **(2 Pt 2:19)**
  1. Relationships are complex and often disappointing. Computer games are predictable, stimulating and emotionally rewarding. Porn is a major issue.
  2. We must lead them to face and learn the difficult lessons of life. **(Deut 4:9-10)**
  3. Instant gratification in an imaginary digital world ill prepares our sons for the real world. Ordinary conversation is impacted by the digital world.
  4. Your sons future will be determined by his ability to discern in forming and keeping the right kind of relationships. **(Prov 13:20-21)**

### **IV. Men need to see and associate with men of true conviction**

- A. All men need "heroes." Consider the men God places as a "cloud of witnesses" before us! **(Heb 12:1; 11:32-35)**
  1. Where do we find our personal heroes? It begins with men and women that have taken a personal interest in us and have built us up. **(1 Tim 1:5-7)**
  2. Who did Timothy look up to? **(2 Tim 3:10, 14-15)**
- B. Men need to build their abilities to discern. **(Heb 5:12-14; Acts 20:31)**
  1. Specific, detailed preaching is very needed.
  2. Men need to see conflict and leadership in action.

### **V. Local churches and the development of male leadership**

- A. The plain exposing of deceit combined with the challenge to change and fight with a purpose appeals to the real needs of men! **(Mt 3:7-10; Acts 24:16, 24-25)**
  1. Shepherds can build an "atmosphere of trust and of open hearts."
  2. This takes planting, watering and weeding. It involves both a building up and a tearing down. **(Titus 1:10-11; 1 Pt 5:2-4)**
  3. Leadership will duplicate itself in what is both good and bad!
- B. When churches become ashamed of these powerful demands, they become weak, inconsistent and hypocritical.
  1. When members refuse to work out problems as God's word directs, then they must be confronted. **(Mt 18:15-17; Titus 3:10-11)**
  2. Repentance must be demanded and there must be a purging of that leaven!
- C. When you build on a foundation of repentance then true change always restores relationship and trust. We major in forgiveness! **(Eph 4:31-32)**