



# A REAL MAN

*The Search for God's Definition of Manhood*



**Note:** Many of the categories in this study have been developed by Stu Weber in his two excellent books—*Tender Warrior—God's Design for a Man* (c) 1993, 1999 by Stu Weber and *Four Pillars of a Man's Heart* (c) 1997 by Stu Weber, both published by Multnomah Publishers (<http://www.multnomahbooks.com>). Portions of this study will follow the ideas in these two works — Used by permission of Multnomah Publishers, Inc.



Allow for discussion, try to get input from everyone. Some things that may be mentioned are: a man is a biological male, a leader, a strong person, or some/many may have no clue at all.

IN YOUR WORLD, WHERE DO YOU LEARN ABOUT MANHOOD?

Family (fathers, brothers, uncles, grandfathers, etc), friends, media (TV, movies, sports figures etc) —Some of us simply do not ever learn what it means to be a man.

READ 1 KINGS 2:1-3

What does David tell his son in verses one and two?

David is about to die and he has these words for his son—"Be strong, show yourself a man!"

What additional instructions are given in verse three?

He is told to observe the commands and decrees of God

What insight can this give us into manhood?

Our walk with God is central and foundational to authentic manhood!

READ GENESIS 1:27 AND MARK 10:6

God is the one who can give us the definitions for what it means to be a man. He made us to be men, he has a design for manhood, this study will take us on a search to discover, God's design for a man.



## THE IMPORTANCE OF A MAN

Why are men important? Is there anything significant about being a man?

Just let them talk, the illustration that follows will be sufficient to drive home the point.

Dr. Tony Evans, pastor of Oak Cliff Bible Church in Dallas, Texas and founder of the Urban Alternative, a ministry dedicated to equipping, empowering and uniting Christians to impact individuals, families, churches and communities, had this to say about the importance of a man:

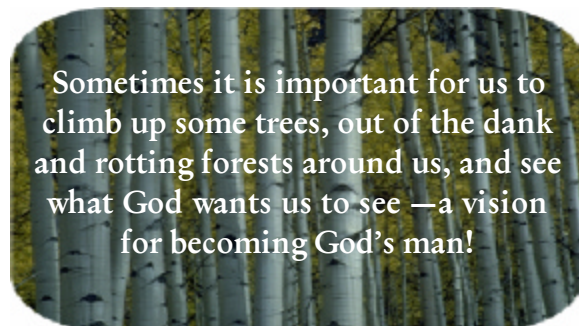


You take a messed up man and you end up with a messed up family, you take a messed up family and you end up with a messed up church, you take a messed up church and you end up with a messed up neighborhood, you take a messed up neighborhood and you end up with a messed up community, you take a messed up community and you end up with a messed up city, you take a messed up city, and you end up with a messed up state, you take a messed up state and you end up with a messed up nation...all for the fact that men will not be men.

Excerpt from a message delivered at a Promise Keepers men's conference

## WHY TALK ABOUT MANHOOD NOW?

If you do not live life intentionally it will pass you by. Before you realize it, you will be finished with school, out in the "real world", you might end up married with some kids etc. If you are not in the stage of *becoming* a man today, you will not be ready for the roads ahead.



Read Ecclesiastes chapter 12 together



OUR ROAD MAP FOR THE WEEKS AHEAD



- The Four Pillars of a Man's Heart —King, Warrior, Mentor, Friend\*\*
- The Character of a Man —Staying power, compassion, leading/following
- Some pitfalls for Men —P.M.S. for men.
- A man's roles/relationships—husband (preparation and execution), father, and one of the fellas.