



# A REAL MAN

*The Search for God's Definition of Manhood*



So Be Strong, show yourself a man...observe what the Lord your God requires...that you may prosper in all you do

1 KINGS 2:2,3

Review memory verse from Warrior module and ask for any questions from the previous study

Read and Memorize 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 NIV

*<sup>3</sup>For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. <sup>4</sup>The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. <sup>5</sup>We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.*

## THE MENTOR IN A MAN'S CHEST

There are national mentoring programs, there are mentors in the business world, athletes serve as mentors to kids in the community, universities are providing academic mentors etc.

What exactly is a mentor?

Did your father, or another male father figure, mentor you in basic life principles?

Allow time for plenty of discussion for these questions

*... we now speak of a mentor as someone who functions to some extent as a father figure (in the best sense of the term), a man who fundamentally affects and influences the development of another, usually younger, man...Mentors nurture our souls. They shape our character. They call us to be complete, whole men, and, by the grace of God, holy men.*

Howard and William Hendricks, *As Iron Sharpens Iron* (Chicago: Moody Press, 1995), 18.

## A MENTOR AS "LIFE COACH"

What does someone who is a *coach* of a sport need to

You need to know the rules of the game, how to teach others how to play the game, how to motivate and inspire others to learn and love the game. You will need to have a strategy/system, a playbook, and a plan for the diverse game situations you could face.

How does this parallel coaching someone in life?

We need to know the rules (God's parameters for life), how to teach others, how to motivate and inspire others to follow God's plan. We need to know God's Word, his playbook and strategy for life, on both the macro level (his overall revealed plans and purposes) and the micro level (how to deal with specific situations and temptations in life).





THE FIRST RULE OF MENTORING – BE THERE!!!

What kind of coach never shows up to practice?

A terrible one. A coach who does not take his job seriously and cares very little about those in his charge.

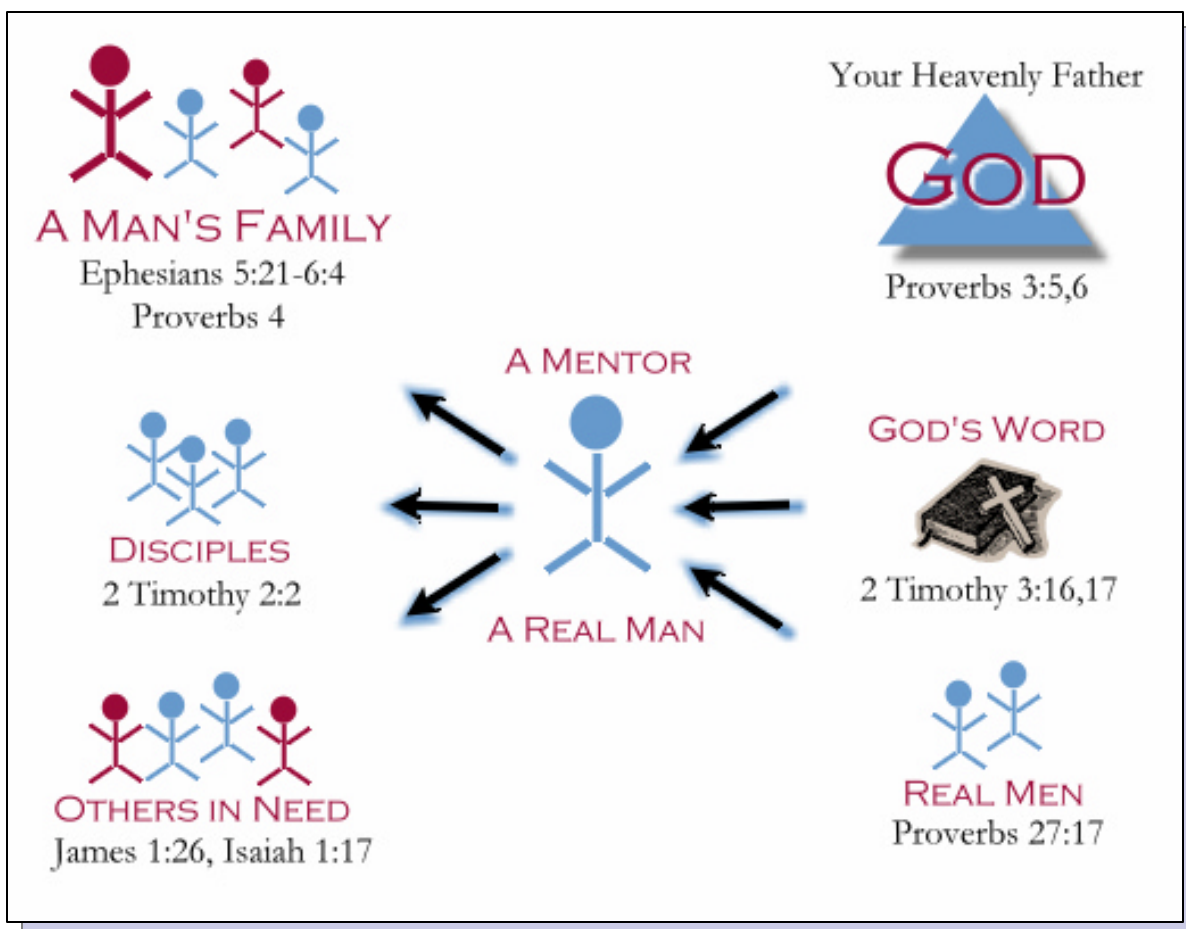
What are some of the joys of *being there* for others?

- Seeing those you teach gain understanding—seeing them “get it.”
- The relationships are sweet with those you influence.
- Being used by God to help someone else along in life.

*Mentoring requires us to be present with those whom we coach and influence!!!*

A MODEL FOR MENTORS

*Mentoring Builds Men who Understand Life and Pass it on*





## INPUTS INTO THE LIFE OF A MENTOR

### HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Read Proverbs 3:5,6 and Hebrews 12:1,2

God must have supremacy in our lives and he must be our ultimate mentor. Through a close, intimate walk with God, a man stays humble and open to what is true, right and good

### HIS STUDY OF GOD'S WORD



Read 2 Timothy 3:16,17

Paul lists four things for which the Scriptures are profitable. How are each of these vital in the life of a mentor:

- **Teaching**—We need to learn the Word of God to live and teach life on both the macro level (his overall plans and purpose for the world) and the micro level (how to deal with specific situations and temptations in life)
- **Rebuking**—We need to be called out where our lives are going astray. This opens our hearts to God for the course corrections we so often need.
- **Correcting**—After the Word rebukes us, a new plan of action is needed. By following the principles in Scripture, God can correct our course in life as well as those we mentor.

### HIS RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER REAL MEN

*As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another* —**Proverbs 27:17**

A mentor needs mentors in his own life; real men he can lock arms with to be faithful to his responsibilities and his God.

## OUTPUTS FROM THE LIFE OF A MENTOR

- **Your Family** —Read Ephesians 5:21-6:4 Proverbs 4:1,2
- **People You Influence Spiritually** —Read 2 Timothy 2:2





## WARNING: MENTORS OUT OF BALANCE



### WILL NOT LEARN

#### DUNCE

one who is slow-witted or stupid (here we are not referring to

- Will not learn anything.
- Rejects the wise counsel of others.
- Does not care to teach or help others that need him.



Explain diagram—a warrior out of balance in either direction makes the house begin to fall.

### ARROGANT

#### KNOW-IT-ALL

one who claims to know everything; also : one who disdains advice

- Thinks he has no need to learn anything.
- Thinks no one can give him any advice.
- Looks down on those he is

### MENTORING IN ACTION – A EULOGY TO A MENTOR

This man whose body lies before me was not only my father and my friend, but he was also the source of great inspiration for me...When I was between ten and thirteen years of age, my dad and I would rise very early before the sun came up on a wintry morning. We would put on our hunting clothes and heavy boots...[and] we would await the arrival of the sun and the awakening of the animal world...Something dramatic...occurred out there in the forest between my dad and me. An intense love and affection was generated on those mornings that set the tone for a lifetime of fellowship. There was a closeness and a oneness that made me want to be like that man...that made me choose his values as my values, his dreams as my dreams, his God as my God.

James Dobson, *Straight Talk* (Dallas, TX: Word, 1991), 40.

### ASSIGNMENT OF THE WEEK

List some men who have had positive influences on your life:  
Fathers? —Coaches? —Teachers? —Uncles? —Brothers? Pastors?