

What the Bible Says

... About Real Men

It's tough being a guy these days. Male Chauvinist Pigs lost their luster in the sixties. The Macho Man went out in the late seventies. The Marlboro Man began to wind down in the eighties. And "manliness" has been on the run pretty much ever since. To be fair, the church hasn't helped. The backlash against misogyny and the church's patriarchal past swung the pendulum so far from the masculine that the most a well-churched man can shoot for is to become a nice, well-heeled fellow. This is one reason why men are becoming increasingly scarce in churches across the US ... in fact, they're one of the fastest exiting demographics. In this week's Conversation, we'll look at what the Bible says about being a real man.

1 Corinthians 16:13

1. Be on _____.
2. Stand _____ in the _____.
3. Act like _____.
4. Be _____.
5. Act in _____.

*The church ... the world ... Raytown needs Christian men
not church mice.*

My Count Me In! Commitments

- I'll be here next Sunday
- I'll invite a friend
- I'd like to be a mentor for a child
- I'll be a model and advocate of the Faith
- I'm interested in a Wild at Heart guys group

Additional Notes

Digging Deeper, Going Further

Monday

Read: Ezekiel 40

1. Why do you think the measurements of the temple were so important?
2. Who do you think the “bronze man” was?

Reflect: This part of the vision occurred after 25 years of exile (from a total of 70 years). This passage was given as a sign of hope for the future. How difficult is it to have hope when the promise is far off?

Tuesday

Read: Ezekiel 41

1. What do you think was the meaning of the palm trees and the cherubim?
2. The vision-temple was 100 cubits by 100 cubits (about 180' X 180'). What do you think the symbolism of a perfect square might mean?

Reflect: Presuming that the Bible is relevant to us today, what do you think we're to take away from multiple chapters of architectural measurements?

Wednesday

Read: Ezekiel 42

1. Why do you think the priests' eating space was separate from the people?
2. What do you think made the priests' rooms holy and the outer court not as holy?

Reflect: How do differentiate between what is holy and what is not as holy?

Thursday

Read: Ezekiel 43

1. From what direction did the glory of the Lord come from?
2. What did the voice tell Ezekiel about why the measurements were so important?

Reflect: It is true that after the Babylonian exile (the period Ezekiel served as prophet), the nation of Israel has never again turned to idolatry. How has God kept his promise to the nation since then?

Friday

Read: Ezekiel 44

1. What were the consequences for the Levites who were unfaithful?
2. What provisions did God make for the care and livelihood of the priests?

Reflect: The priests were to keep themselves holy enough to enter the temple. Christians are now the “temple” of the Lord. What are you doing to keep yourself as holy as the priests?

Saturday: *Who will you invite to worship with you tomorrow?*