SESSION 2

THE FOUR FACES OF MANHOOD
Living Out Our Manhood

I. A Brief Review

A. In the soul of every man we want to live up! – But what is “Up”?
B. How do we become the man we are called to be without knowing what it is?
C. What is that compelling vision that calls a man up? What is that substance that embodies a true man’s life? We know what calls a man down – but what calls us up to be the men God has called up to be?
D. Today men are confused. The world portrays the ideal man to be the perfect man, but we cannot do it all.
E. The world, the culture tells men different things at different time, so men as a whole catches the winds of culture and tries to live to that momentary standard, but nothing is permanent.
F. Our goal is to be better men, but what is our vision?
G. Trying to be Mr. Perfect is a terrible way to live. A better way to look at the life of a man is a life that is in balance.
H. The biblical view is for the man to be balanced, a balance of the four faces / expressions of manhood.
   1. Each complementing each other.
   2. Each synchronizing with the other.
   3. Each balancing the other.
   4. This is what the world is looking for in men, this is what we are looking for in ourselves.

II. Manhood’s Four Faces:

A. Face #1: The King: This face does not come easily in a man’s life. It is a face that is to be cultivated over time. Many ingredients help a man to put on this face: Parents, mentors, heroes, faith… It is a face that is forged in the crucible of life.

   1. This is the face reflecting: Righteousness (a love of the right)

2. This is a face Characterized by:
   • Strong Convictions
   • Courageous Moral Choices
   • A Servant Spirit
   • Righteous Leadership
   • NOTE – It does not come easy, it is forged in the crucible of life.

3. This face is seen in Scripture:
   • In Nathan as he confronts King David regarding his sin with Bathsheba. Nathan does this at great risk to both is position and life. Yet he points to King David and says you are wrong.
   • In King David as he hears the words of this righteous man, does not deny or cover-up, or make excuses, but he “mans-up” to his own sin; when he said “I’ve done wrong!” “You are right – I did it.”
   • See: Proverbs 4:18 and Proverbs 20:7
4. Comments on the King Face:
   • It is provided to a boy by his father, mentors, it is integrating faith into your life.
   • It shows itself when a man takes the principled path over his own comfort and over circumstances.
   • He doesn’t waiver when he knows that are risks and consequences to his actions and decisions. Standing up against wrong.
   • The King’s face stand up to a friend to call him back from sin even if it costs him that friendship.
   • It shows itself in a man being noble and just; being one who has a love for the right.
   • Over time the righteousness of a man grows brighter and stronger, as his character and good name is known by others; as he is tested and passes the tests.
   • This stands in opposition to the life of a man whose life, whose character grows dimmer as he continues to live in sin.
   • A King gives his son his integrity (Proverbs 20:7). You build a solid core in our son’s live.

B. Face #2: The Warrior: - The face that is ready to do battle, to fight, that gets us through the challenges and difficulties, the face that will not allow us to quit in challenging time. It is the man who can take life head on and win.

1. This face is reflecting: Conquering Energy/Spirit

2. This is a face characterized by:
   • Initiative – Goes after it
   • Protecting – Shelters and Defends
   • Providing – I am going to take care of you, no matter what it takes.
   • Persevering – In the midst of all kinds of adversities. It goes on.
   • Fights -

3. This face is see in Scripture;
   • As Paul gives his charge to the young man Timothy in 1st Timothy 6:11-12
     a. Noble, “Up” terms: Godliness, Righteousness, Faith – this are not easily ceased in any man’s life.
     b. Love, Perseverance, those are the kind of things you have to work hard for, you have to fight for, and it takes a while to “take hold” of those things.

4. Comments on the Warrior Face:
   • This is the most honored and celebrated of the men’s faces: We love the warrior, the war hero, the man who stands strong in the face of overwhelming opposition, who stands for what is right.
   • We go to movies and watch fictional characters and replays of heroic men.
   • We honor men such as George Patton, Teddy Roosevelt, John Wayne and others.
   • Why? Because it stirs the soul of a man because there is something in us that enjoys a good fight.
   • Sometimes the Warrior Face gets out of control… But the Warrior face is not destructive but positive.
   • The Warrior face says: We are going to make this work – we will get the job done.
C. **Face #3: The Lover** – This face is the most difficult for the man.

1. This is a face reflecting: **Romantic** energy

2. This is a face characterized by:
   - Tenderness
   - Sensitivity
   - Sacrificial Care
   - Emotional Openness
   - Physical Affection

3. This face is seen in Scripture:
   - Ephesians 5:25ff – a tall order for men!
   - Jesus gave himself up for His church, men, you are to give yourself up for our wives.

4. **Comments on the Lover’s Face**:
   - This is the Face that picks up on his wife’s REAL needs.
   - Makes the sacrifice to spend more time at home instead of seeking money, fortune, or fame.
   - The Lover is the one who can open his heart and share the things he really feels, to live with his wife with an open heart: No hiding, no walls, and no fronts. No pretending that as a man – we must have emotions like steel and those emotions are a sign of weakness.
   - Connects around feelings, not superficial.
   - This is the face that gives yourself up for your wife!

D. **Face #4: Friend** – Many men do not have a friend that they connect to at a soul level. Why? Because not too many of us are “friend worthy”. We don’t have time for friends. We want a friend to invest in us, talk to us, support us, but we don’t have the time. So we live in these vary superficial relationships.

1. This is a face reflecting: **Connecting** energy

2. This is a face characterized by:
   - Loyalty
   - Accountability
   - Challenge
   - Fun

3. This face is seen in Scripture:
   - Proverbs 17:17 –
   - Proverbs 27:17 –

4. **Comments on the Friend’s Face**:
   - **Superficial relationships**:
     - Where no one around us do we feel close enough to really trust with the secret things of our lives.
     - And no one who we will let talk tough to us when someone needs to get into our face.
     - That requires time.
• We may all like to have a friend like that, but ask yourself: “Am I friend worthy”?
  a. Am I willing to sacrifice the time, effort, energy; am I willing to risk and reach out in order to develop and cultivate a close friendship?
  b. Or am I just waiting for someone to reach out to me?

• To have a friend(s) like this, we must be willing to risk and reach out to cultivate this type of relationship.

• Universal Principle – If you want to be the man you are called to be you HAVE TO BE CONNECTED to other men, how can:
  a. Speak in to your life,
  b. Who can call out the best in you
  c. Who can cheer for your successes, who can admire your efforts, and who can be your friend.
  d. Because that is what of real friend is.

III. Some Important Observations About These Four Faces

  A. All to often, these honorable faces of manhood are replaced by Ugly Caricatures

  - Leaning too far to the right of left of either of these faces, we end up with an ugly caricature of what the face is truly to be – the Honorable Faces.
  - The world then sees the ugly man – and claim: “All men are brutes”, “All men are insensitive, are loners, only use people.”
  - But these are just caricatures of the real man.
B. Because of our morally-compromised culture, many men today lack a **KING**.
   1. Without a KING, the WARRIOR becomes unrestrained, hurting lives, including his own, in the process. The Warrior, unrestrained by the RIGHTEOUS KING, becomes a DESTROYER.
   2. The KING rides the WARRIOR helping the WARRIOR live for the right things.
   3. A WARRIOR without a KING is a DESTROYER.
   4. And we see that today, where the world honors a “dumb-down” immoral masculinity.

C. **Our increasingly feminized culture has emasculated the WARRIOR in many young men.**
   1. The result has been the creation of the SOFT MALE, INDECISIVE as to direction, WEAK as to LEADERSHIP.
   2. We have a culture where it increasingly disconnects fathers from sons, and in the last 30 years has really spurred on the Warrior spirit in women.
   3. As men have grown quite in that environment, young men have been raised in primarily overly dominated female environments – which have stolen the Warrior out of a lot of young men lives.
   4. They have grown up where the Warrior has been suppressed because the right spirit of the Warrior is usually called out of young men by older men – calling him to become that kind of Warrior.
   5. But usually in a female environment – the Warrior is downplayed and/or suppressed.

D. **Our world today is desperate to see in men the FOUR-FACED balance of REAL MANHOOD!**

We are not talking about “**effeminate**” men, but “**feminized**” men.

“**Feminized**” men are boys who have been raised in a culture dominated by a culture of strong women and weak men who have abdicated their role as KING, WARRIOR, LOVER AND FRIEND.

**The Feminized man** – someone who is strong and tough looking on the outside:

- But when it comes to Leadership, they wait to take the initiative, they are soft.
- When it comes to the moment of decision, they defer, and often to a women.
- Why? Because the Warrior is gone – it is the soft male.
- The culture has stolen the Warrior from the heart and soul of a generation of men.
- Older men must begin calling out younger men.

When you look into the mirror – what do you see?