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What is

MAN UP!

All men know instinctively that their capacity *to increase and expand* their authority and influence is innate. All men know in their sub-conscience that a powerful man exists within to stand up, defend, honor, sacrifice and lead. All men recognize this man is within them but is somehow out of reach. Why?

Our culture is in crisis! Manhood is under attack. We have lost our authority, voice and influence. Our society and media are undermining the male version of God in His men. Man Up is a quest to reestablish Biblical manhood.

We live in a world where we promote the individual man. Most men are on an elusive journey striving for their own definition of success. They are finding out that the end of the road is filled with isolation, boredom and mixed with deep regret rather than the inner knowledge and fulfillment of a life lived well.

Man Up is about **JESUS...The MAN** who lived and died so you and I could become like Him. Our deepest desire is to worship and serve God. The reward of living as He lived is we see our manhood step in and solve real problems, speak truth to lies, shine light into darkness and fight for the oppressed. "Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God." 1John 4:15

Man Up is about **YOU** doing the real work of discovering and knowing biblically how God handcrafted and shaped you to become His vessel to be used for His glory and purpose. Our understanding of ourselves and others is the key to unlocking the spiritual code of

how we are to live and invest our lives intentionally for His Kingdom.
“Those who increase in knowledge increase in strength.”
Proverbs 24:5

Man Up is about **OTHERS**. Real men cover what is under their charge and care. When we learn that becoming a man is centered in our ability to connect with other men, we cross over into a profound truth that MEN make a man. You are here because you want to move the fight forward and establish honor for God’s Great Name, your family and community.

Man Up is about lifting Him UP, lifting you up, and lifting others up!
“A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.”
Proverbs 17:17.

Building Solid Lives is Man’s Work,
Pastor Dan

Welcome to the **SUMMIT**

Men don't retreat, we summit!

It's hard for me to believe this is our 3rd Man Up Summit together! Wow! What started out as a conviction with Pastor Danny and me about how men are under attack and are meant to live a great life has turned into a movement and community we call Man Up! Summit 3 is about us as a community of men tapping into the authority and power that Jesus has given us. It's about choosing to enter into a fight that is bigger than ourselves and knowing the purpose to which we are called. Most men never know that purpose. We are learning it together.

If you have never been to a Man Up Summit before, I am so grateful you are here. The fact that you are here makes a difference. You could have done a lot of other things this weekend, but you chose this. Thank you. I am sure you will say to yourself more than once this weekend, "Are these guys for real?" I assure you we are. We have one simple mission, allow God to make us the best of who we are supposed to be. No judgment, just the authority to change our lives for the better. We're convinced that is what Jesus has in mind for us. Purpose. Power to achieve it. Life larger than we can imagine.

Here's my prayer for you. If you don't know who God is for certain, I pray that you discover He is for you, not against you. If you know God, then I pray that you know He accepts you as you are and wants to connect with you not to judge you or to show you how you're wrong but to give you strength and elevate your life. If you know God's favor is on you, then I pray that you know what it means to cover others with the favor and strength He has given you. If you know what it means to cover others, then I pray you know what it means to live out your mission in life and that the calling of God rests on you in a way that brings life to others and rescues the world around you from the hopelessness and selfishness that holds it in bondage.

You will spend this weekend with some of the best men I know. Have some fun. Be you, we'll be us. Choose to let something good happen. Expect that you will walk with a different authority and purpose when you leave.

It's good that you're here and I am glad you are! - Brad

SUMMIT SCHEDULE

Friday

5:30 pm	Registration opens
6:30 pm	Dinner
7:15 pm	Friday Night Kick-off Worship Friday Night Session Vinyl Ride Classic Rock
10:30 pm	Close Out

Saturday

7:00 am	Saturday Morning Activities
9:00 am	Breakfast Worship Saturday Morning Session Break Out Sessions
12:20 pm	Lunch Man Stuff Saturday Afternoon Session
3:30 pm	Close Out

SPEAKER BIOS

DAN DAUGHERTY



Dan Daugherty became a follower of Jesus Christ during his senior year of high school and immediately knew his life was radically changed. He went to Arizona State University where God began to shape him by surrounding him with wonderful people who helped him grow as a young Christian. He married his wife Tracy when they were both interning in youth ministries and they have pastored together over the past twenty years.

They together planted our church The Father's House in San Marcos, California. Pastor Dan is passionate about building God's Church and his heart is to raise up strong men of God who will cover their families and communities well. Side note: He loves U2 and Notre Dame and he especially loves his wife and his three children!

BRAD SOUSA

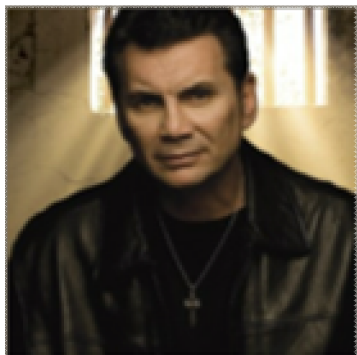


Brad is a father, husband, and businessman. Brad and Janele have been married for 30 years and love their two sons, two daughters, and soon to be seven grandchildren. Currently he is the Senior Vice President for a national media integration company. Brad is the recognized industry leader in digital media and visual communications. He has also been involved in ministry in some capacity from the time he gave his heart to God in

high school. Since then, Brad has been a worship leader, youth pastor, as well as served as an associate pastor. Today, he and his

wife serve with their kids at The Father's House Church in San Marcos, California.

MICHAEL FRANZESE



Michael Franzese has been transformed from a “made man” to a “real man”. Michael tells his story of life as a Capo of the Colombo family, what it means to become a made man, what it’s like to make more money for the mob than anyone, and what it’s like to discover the road to real manhood. TV appearances, mega-speaking engagements and now film, Michael is in demand; his willingness to tell his

story to our group is truly an opportunity you can’t afford to turn down. See more about Michael’s story by [clicking here](#) or learn about his upcoming movie.

SESSIONS NOTES

Session 1 – Michael Franzese

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Session 2 – Pastor Dan Daugherty

I. LIVE BY INVESTING: _____

2 John 8 "Watch out that you do not lose what you have worked for, but that you be rewarded fully."

Ephesians 1:13,18 NIV "And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed you were marked in him with zeal the promise of the Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing **our inheritance**...I pray also that the eyes of your heart (understanding) may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope in which he called you, the riches of **his glorious inheritance in the saints**."

2 Corinthians 9:6-9 NIV "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each MAN should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. As it is written: "He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor (us) his righteousness endures forever."

II. LOVE BY TRANSFERRING: _____

"A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but a sinner's wealth is stored up for the righteous " **Proverbs 13:22**

Luke 16:11 NIV "So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with **true riches**."

Matthew 10:40-42 "He who **receives** you receives me, and he who receives me receives the one who sent me. Anyone who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and anyone who receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward." **And if anyone gives a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward."**

III. LEAD LIKE YOUR LEAVING: _____

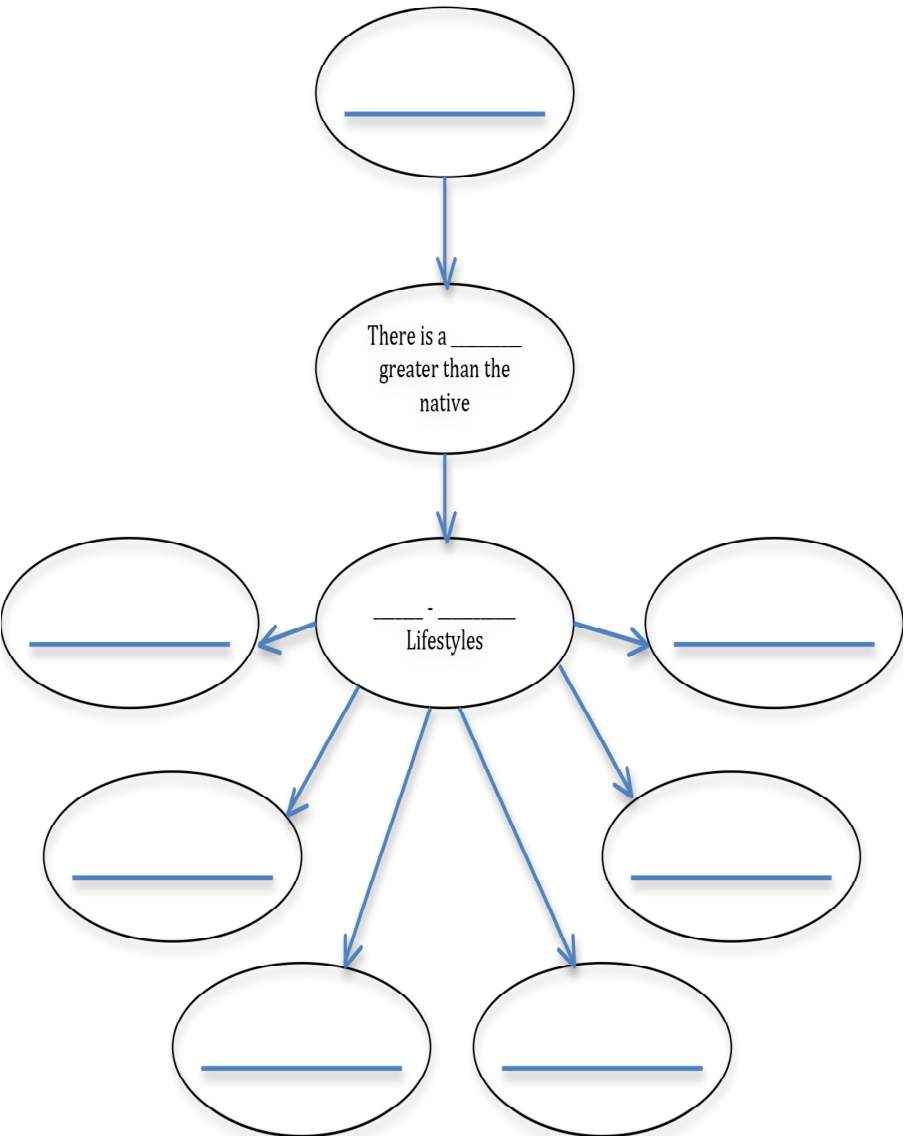
1 Corinthians 5:9-10 NIV "So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ (Remedial), that each one may receive what is due him for things done while in the body, whether good or bad,"

2 Timothy 4:7-8 NIV *"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous Judge will AWARD me on that day -- and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing. (LIVE FOR THERE)*

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Session 3 – Brad Sousa

Alter _____



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Breakout

SESSIONS:

At the Summit, we are not interested in creating an event where men come, get talked at and go home thinking that was cool. We want to provide tools and skills that help us as men to “man up” for what God has called us. That is different for each of us.

Breakout Sessions are designed to break down the barriers between who I am and what I am called to be. The idea is that we can get into small enough groups to ask questions and get real-life, transparent input on where we are in life. For many, these Breakout Sessions have radically changed their lives. We want to have topics that are on the minds of men. Sure, we will deal with sin and the “don’ts” in life, but wouldn’t it be better for all of us if we focused more on the “dos” and on the things that move us from OK to greatness! We have selected a short list of topics that have resonated with us as men throughout this last year and have given time to dig in a bit more. We have recruited good men who are real and open to share life together, not because they have it all figured out, but they have seen the power behind what God wants to do in these areas of our lives. These men are willing to share the successes, power and struggles that come with being committed to facing the tough things in a man’s life and the reward for doing it well. Here’s what we’ve got...sign up for one.

Fatherhood, Manhood and Legacy - Brad Sousa

Over the years, we have seen a consistent issue that robs men from rising up to the greatness they are meant to live. I am talking about “father issues”. We will unpack effective

tools that address father issues you may be facing, but, more than that, we will unpack the most effective weapon we have found in freeing those who are impacted by father issues in their lives. Regardless if you are looking to be a better father, to find freedom from generational issues in your life, or to help someone who has a self-destructive behavior, we will unlock God's powerful weapon for gaining authority over these matters.

Re-Establishing Cover: Squads -- Pastor Dan

God's men are designed both to be under His cover as well as establish His authority and dominion (cover).

Man's function is to bring headship (cover) over the following:

- Personal – holiness
- Marriage - oneness
- Family – unity
- Church – wholeness
- Community – witness
- Darkness – devil

Learn how to understand your role and function through loving leadership. If we are responsible then we must establish His Name, Word, and Life through our gifts and calling.

The opposite of COVER is EXPOSURE! Men, the time is now! It is required that men (soldiers) fight together and learn why living life in a squad with other brothers is vital for your spiritual journey to be fruitful and successful.

God & Money - Mark Anderson

Mark is a successful and wise local estate planning attorney; in addition, Mark is on the Legal Counsel for the international ministry Operation Mobilization. His wife Cathey started the "Freedom Climb" which is an international ministry that raises hundreds of thousands of dollars and brings freedom to women and children around the world who are oppressed, enslaved, exploited and trafficked.

Money talk is God talk. Why? Because our gifts, talents, wealth and money are resources that can and should be

wisely distributed for God's glory! You will be given biblical insight and wisdom regarding how to *see* and *use* money by investing in the Kingdom that will never end. We are here not to just accumulate wealth but to allocate it.

Money is a resource that can provide awesome opportunities to bless. We will learn to see those who God sees and desires to touch. If you want to learn to control your money allowing God to direct in its allocation, experience the joy of giving and ending debt, come sit in and listen to wise perspective on "God & Money".

Defining & Developing Your Spiritual Growth Track - Pastor Benji Horning & Luke Harmon

It is so easy to believe in God and even go to church, yet our faith requires us to be doers and not just hearers of the Word.

As followers of Christ, we cannot just "believe" but we need to activate a personal, clear, spiritual growth track that will help us **encourage**, **equip** and **empower** a faith that moves with God through His Word and Spirit in alignment with His Church (the Body of Christ). Tracking our spiritual progress needs a platform of purity.

Learn how you can build a personalized spiritual growth track so you can be all you can be for Jesus and His Kingdom. Men who know how to lead themselves first can then grow in spiritual leadership principles to expand His Kingdom!

"Those who increase in knowledge increase in strength"
Proverbs 24:5.

What are SQUADS?

Navigating life righteously requires spiritual warfare. We as men must not fight alone but alongside brothers who can cover our blind spots. We fight an unseen enemy, our flesh and a worldly culture that demands spiritual engagement. 1Peter 5:8-9 *“Be sober minded; be watchful, your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of sufferings are being experienced by your brotherhood through the world.”*

Squads are designed to address the four key areas to which men need to bring cover:

- God’s Word
- Relationships
- Mission
- Prayer & Worship

Each man should write out his own personal goals and prayer points in relation to these four areas. This is his written plan of how he needs to move forward spiritually.

Each of the four corners cannot be neglected but must be reinforced with the help of other brothers who will stand, fight and assist one another to stay in the fight. Each man in a squad “covers” one of these corners by praying and encouraging the others.

Men need both ***friends and brothers*** to reach their potential in Christ and fulfill the mission the Lord has planned for their lives. *“A friend loves at all times, but a brother is born for adversity.”*

Proverbs 17:17

The following three essentials are required for each man to maintain spiritual success and sustainability:

- Responsibility - assume responsibility for your brothers.
- Transparency - choose to live in the light and tell the truth.
- Accountability - position yourself to be encouraged and corrected in the Lord.

THANK YOU

Do you ever wait after the movie is over and read all the credits? Sometimes I do and I am amazed at how many people it takes to make a movie happen. Have you ever wondered how many people it takes to move a people? Be prepared to be amazed.

In 1 Chronicles 28, the story is told of King Solomon taking charge of building the first Temple for God Almighty. His father King David encouraged him that God would be with him and He ensures success. Then he said this...*"Here are the divisions of the priests and the Levites for all the service of the house of God; and with you in all the work will be every volunteer who has skill for any kind of service"*. Solomon was certainly the most powerful man in the world in his time, but the purpose of God is achieved through leaders and skilled volunteers.

At the time of this publishing, the names of the leaders and volunteers for this weekend are listed below. I am sure by the time this event is complete, more men will come forward and help that aren't listed here. If you see someone with a special name badge, on the ministry team, set-up crew or whatever, take a moment and say thanks. If this weekend has impacted you in any way, tell them so. To all the leaders and skilled volunteers, we say thank you.

THANK YOU

Aaron Oquendo
Alex Leutweiler
Allen Robinette
Andrew Henneforth
Austin Morrison
Benji Horning
Bob Goode
Brad Sousa
Brian Dall
Brian Helming
Bruce Ingoldt
Byron Vardillos
Chris Grissom
Chuck Badger III
Chuck Badger Jr.
Cory Clarke
Dave Snyder
Dennis Casarez
Devin Tanner
Dorian Currier
Eric Loper
Erik Borgeson
Grant Jones
Gregg Cole
Hunter Stump
Jake Brown
James Pena

James Wood
Joe Donnelly
Joel Manahan
Joey Sprauge
John DeMaria
Johnny Koyle
Josh Walsh
Kirk Henson
Mark Anderson
Nate King
Nick Gomez
Pete Algover
Phil Chance
Randy Gor
Ray Deluca
Richard Hoogavorst
Rick DeFalco
Riegh Harision
Robbie Fernandez
Shawn Weebe
Skip Phillips
Steve Richardson
Ted Anderson
Tim Stark
Tim Townsen
Tommy Brown
Tony Jacques
Zac Stark

What to do if you

NEED MORE HELP:

Let me be clear about something...helping you be your best is what this weekend is about. The speakers, the worship, the fun stuff...it's all great. But the real goal is shifting the lives of men and that more often happens one on one than in a big group. It's about men hearing God say, "You should do something about this". More than that, it's about actually doing something about it.

Part of our mission here this weekend is to restore to you the authority the enemy has taken from you and recapture what was lost. We will do this through insightful discussion, prayer and encouragement. Nobody here wants to get into your stuff, but neither are we afraid of it. We want you to have authority over your life the way Jesus intends. No embarrassment. No guilt. No "you should have..."

There is a table that will be manned by someone each hour for the sole purpose of providing additional help. You may find yourself responding to something God is doing in a session or meeting. Do it! Respond, often and deeply. But if you sense that you need something more, then do this. Look for the Help Table, or look for someone with a "Ministry Team" badge. These men are specially trained and specifically selected to provide encouragement and powerful prayer. They know how to listen to what the circumstances are, find the core and get God into it. Don't be surprised if you hear them say, "OK. We can deal with that." They are men who know how to stand up for you with the power of God. Be open, to the point, and willing to pray. You'll be surprised what God will do.

... JOURNAL ...

We know that the Summit is not just an event. It is a starting point. Our hope is that a part of your heart is awakened and your journey with God get's "throttled up"! So, what do you do after the Summit? There are two primary goals. 1. Every man in a squad. 2. Every squad to go through the 12 week journal.

If you are not currently in a squad, you can sign up by going to The Father's House Resource Hub at www.thefathershousesd.org, clicking on ManUp! and then Squads. Here you can register to join a Squad and carry forward what God has started at the Summit.

We are encouraging **all** Squads to use this journal as a 12 week platform for discussion following the Summit. By doing so, the core values, lifestyle and culture that make up ManUp! will become part of your culture. You will find it will change your everyday life and the life of your House. Take the time to work through the Journal. Let it reshape the life God is calling you to. And, join with other men to make it your habit and lifestyle.

Hand-to-Hand

COMBAT

"Be sober minded, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world." 1Peter 5:8-9

"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled." 2 Corinthians 10:3-6

The fact is we (Christ's Church) are in a war, which means we are in a fight! As men, we love watching sports where men tackle, punch, wrestle, hit and dominate their opponent. **The truth is** our war demands us to battle a spiritual fight. One of the keys to besting your enemy or opponent is to know who they are and understand their strengths and weaknesses and build a game plan to maximize your strength and wisdom.

Keys to victory:

- * The fight is spiritual
- * Jesus won the war
- * The enemy is a relentless adversary to Christ, the Church and our faith.

- * The enemy has been defeated
- * You can fight alone but you cannot win alone!
- * His strategy is distraction – idolatry, boredom, fantasy, and indifference
- * Take orders, submit, and engage your victory in Christ's Name and power.

Think through what is under your COVER (wife, kids, work and relationships). Take time to listen and consider what the stakes are if you win and what the stakes are if you lose. Men are the key to cover and are required to engage and "bind the strong man" (Satan) and evict his lies and evil thoughts and replace them with the truth--God's truth.

Pray for Christ's wisdom and power to deeply understand the war and the fight!

Pastor Dan

What this means to me is:

What I will do about it is:

My Brother's KEEPER

"Then the Lord said to Cain, 'Where is Abel your brother?' He said, 'I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?'" Genesis 4:9

"Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell together in unity." Psalm 133:1

One of MAN'S biggest needs is not for shallow buddies for shallow occasions but rather for a few trustworthy, God-fearing, integrity-filled brothers who can stand with us, by us and for us. Our media and society underscore the true need that men have for deep connections. We need strong, spiritual team building that together moves the mission forward.

Men, the lie in our culture is this: A real MAN doesn't need MEN! Nothing could be farther from the truth. Think of this relational math equation, "One can put a 1000 to flight but two can put 10,000". When men go it alone, we grossly under-achieve our spiritual power and strength. We leave 90% of our capacity behind and forfeit so many losses because we "go it alone"!

Cain did not want the burden of caring and covering his brother. We feel that. It requires feelings, emotions, and even warfare. Like Cain, **we need to be known and to know our brothers in Christ** so we can KEEP what we have and KEEP on KEEPING ON!

Cain, in his isolation and selfishness, as well as his refusal to listen to the Lord's instruction not only took a life having no remorse but also lost everything he thought he could KEEP.

Keys to Keeping:

- * Worship & honor God (His will, His way)
- * Take the role and responsibility to be your brother's keeper (see squads)
- * Develop your brotherhood skills for effectiveness (know your strengths and weaknesses)
- * Learn the power and reward of "unity"
- * Understand the truth that to be a MAN you need other men!

Think about why you might be under-achieving or not hitting the mark as a believer in Christ. Consider the spiritual inheritance and victories that have been left out on the battlefield. Ask God to give you perspective and insight into the power of being kept and keeping brotherhood.

Pray for God's wisdom and power to deeply understand the power of "brotherhood".

Pastor Dan

What this means to me is:

What I will do about it is:

I Will Not ISOLATE

"The man who isolates himself rages against sound counsel."

Proverbs 18:1

"A friend loves at all times and a brother is born for adversity."

Proverbs 17:17

Life has its challenges and moments of crisis that position us to need outside wisdom and resources. There is no shame in needing help. Many of the Psalms are about King David who, although he was alone and on the run from an unfair conflict, modeled the need to cry out to God for help (Psalm 12).

It is easy for men to isolate and here is how this occurs. It is a dangerous, predictable, slippery slope and causes many men to find themselves in very painful places. I wrote this out several years ago based on my own journey into isolation.

Slippery Slope

- * Lack Understanding
- * Confused
- * Angry
- * Isolate
- * Cut off

Men, if we are honest, isolation has a starting point! Real men need to *understand* and not be *confused* about the times and seasons we are in. If we can't know God's heart and ways through the tough

times and have consistency in our brotherhood, *confusion and anger* are the next drop in the spiral of being taken out and being cut off, (divorced, change churches again, burned bridges, become indifferent, etc...).

The biggest need in the Body of Christ is for men to have **friends and brothers** who can love and fight for us because we have allowed other men to see us, know us and still care for us. These relationships bring understanding.

Ask yourself, who are my friends and brothers? Are they shallow or deep? Meditate on God's Word and study the Scriptures above for continued wisdom and insight.

Pray for God's wisdom and power to understand man's need for friends and allies.

Pastor Dan

What this means to me is:

What I will do about it is:

Core Values

Luke 6:45 “A good man, out of the treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil in his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.”

Our words indicate the condition of our heart. If we listen to ourselves intently enough, we will locate the condition of our heart, what we value most and what matters to us. What we treasure in our heart is what we produce.

Have you ever been in a place where you were afraid, but the resolve of your heart said, “While this is going to be painful, nevertheless, this is what I am going to do”? That place in life where the pain of the situation is out-weighed by the conviction in your heart. Whatever the issue was that needed defending, an idea, a belief or a person; the action to stand your ground was based upon a core belief. This core belief comes from a set of values that give greater measure to the outcome than the price that is about to be paid. In that moment, you discover who you are deep down inside and what you are made of in your heart. Good or evil. Strong or weak.

Most men don’t take the time to understand who they are deep down. As a result, they don’t know what’s worth defending. They shift with the pressures of life, not really standing for anything and certainly not having the “hair” to stand up and defend something. We don’t want to be “that guy”. We want to be the kind of man Jesus is. He knew what the price was going to cost Him, placed a value on you and me greater than the cost, and resolved to pay it. He chose to stand up under the pressure and live for more than Himself. The Bible tells us in Hebrews 12:2, “*Jesus, who for the joy set before Him, endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of God.*” He certainly knew who He was, it was resolved deep down in

His heart. He made up His mind ahead of the crisis who He was and what His decision was going to be, and then lived it out. That's the man I want to be. Let us know our Core Values, our Code. Let us know what is worth dying for. Let us write it down and instill it in our lives, our house, our family, and our business.

Our Core Values are different for each of us. They take on our individual gifting and destiny. I look at it this way. If my life is a journey and the road I am on takes me to my God-defined destination, then my Core Values are the guardrails that keep me on the road. I choose before I get in the car to obey and honor these, no matter how others may drive around me or what crossroads and exits I may encounter. They are the expression of God's hand on me and are immovable.

Father God, I pray today that I know who I am deep down: my identity as a son, as well as my calling. Help me understand what I value in my life. What is an opinion, which can be changed, and what is a Core Value, which must be defended. I submit, God, to Your values as mine. I pray for wisdom to be able to define these for myself and communicate these with those closest to me, so that we can partner together to live out Your will for my life and establish Your Kingdom in the lives of others.

Matt 6:19 *"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Set what you value in life deep in your heart and know what it is."*

Take time this week to do a word search in the bible for "treasure and heart" and understand how these relate to each other.

Consider some of the heroic men of the Bible: Joshua, Gideon, Peter, and Paul. See if you can discover their Core Values.

Write down your Core Values and ask God and those closest to you if they are opinions or convictions (Core Values).

What would you say God's Core Values are?

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What this means to me is:

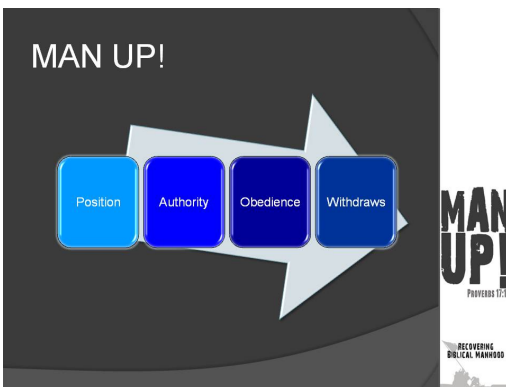
What I will do about it is:

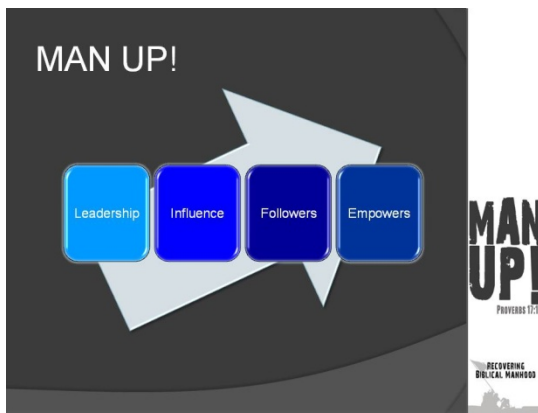
Leading through INFLUENCE

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: *“Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled himself and became obedient to death-- even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”* Phil 2:5-11

We know that God’s intention is that we are leaders. Too often though, we lead from position rather than influence. What I mean by this is that we define our position and compare ourselves to others and their positions in life. We do this through all sorts of ways. Sometimes it is based upon title. I am a manager. Well, I am a VP. OK, I am a CEO. We might define position based on the toys or the

money we have. Within Christian circles, we can easily fall into the trap of defining position based upon rules. You’re divorced; I’m not. You have an addiction; I don’t. I know the Bible; you’re new at this. We devise clever ways to enable ourselves to take a higher position over





someone else. Why? Because when we relate to each other based upon position, we don't have to create vulnerability or transparency. What you think of my character doesn't matter; it's my position that matters. The

trouble is that this isn't leadership at all.

You see, when we lead by position, we take authority from others, require their obedience and this ends up withdrawing from our relationship with them until we are bankrupt in that relationship. People who have a relationship with us based on position never really follow us. They obey us, which only works when there is a threat if they don't obey.

Without followers, there is no leader. It takes a follower to make a leader. True leadership comes from serving. When we serve we invest in other people's lives and make deposits into them instead of taking withdrawals from them. People who are led have capacity. They are greater because of the leader. Service creates influence. When people grant us influence in their lives, they follow us to a cause they too believe in. This in turn empowers them to be their best. This is true leadership. This is how Jesus led. He saw where people were lacking and served. Once He served, He empowered and people followed. Who wouldn't?

This week, consider these questions. Am I at conflict with anyone? Am I asking them to follow me or be obedient to me? Are there relationships that I have where I should be leading but I don't have the influence I need to lead? What relationships do I have that are based upon position when they should be based upon influence and leadership?

What this means to me is:

What I will do about it is:

Life with a

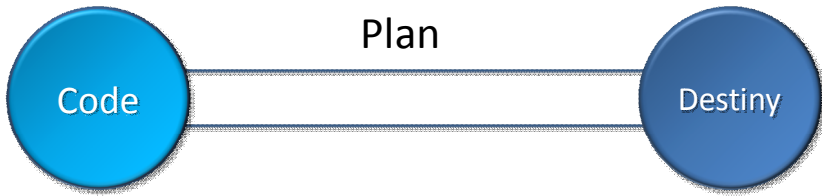
MISSION

God doesn't speak to us in terms of plans. He speaks to us in terms of charge and mission. The term plan appears in the Bible 40 times and almost always refers to the mind and wisdom of men. The terms charge and mission appear 97 times and almost always refer to God's intention for man.

A charge is important to God. It means to accept from God an obligation to cover, to establish safety, to guard and to serve God in this way. Mission on the other hand has to do with a journey to which God calls us.

Now the Lord sent Saul on a mission and said, *"Go and utterly destroy the sinners, the Amalekites and fight against them until they are consumed,"* in 1 Samuel 15:18. I believe it was God's intention that Saul would be a good king and reign over Israel. The problem was that Saul didn't live up to his mission. In fact, he considered the mission God had for him to be unworthy. The Hebrew word for mission is the word *derek*, which is also translated as "way or journey" as in, *"Raise up a child in the way that he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it."* Proverbs 22:6

So what does this mean? Simply stated, God has given us a certain DNA, a set of traits and gifts. This DNA molds into our Core Values or Code. God calls each of us to a specific destiny and He has a destination in life for us, which He has intended to be in the expression of a full and happy life. The steps in between these two, code and destiny, is our mission. Mission is the plan we make with God's wisdom, grace and gifts that enable us to achieve our destiny.



This is
who I am

(List your code & core values)

Where I am
supposed
to end up

(Describe where you think
you're called to)

Take some time and list out your Code and Core Values. Then take some time and write down where you think God is calling you. Don't do this in 15 minutes. Really take some time to work through this process. Now consider the steps to get from where you are to where you are supposed to be. That's the basis of your mission. It's what you believe is worth living for. Realize that every one of us has a mission and it's not random or haphazard. It's from God. Work out steps.

Now consider these steps with other godly men, men who are more concerned about your good than your feelings. Let them weigh in on what you think your mission is. Make sure your mission is submitted to God and that He is defining your steps. Remember that you are not defining the plan and then asking God to bless it; but that He is defining your destination and you are working toward it. Reread Proverbs 22:6, knowing that the word "way" means "mission". Ask yourself these questions: Did my dad train me for my mission or journey in life? If not, how do I get trained for it? Am I wandering or working toward my mission? Am I training my son(s) and daughter(s) for their mission?

What this means to me is:

What I will do about it is:

Sons or Servants

Matt 4:1-10, Matt 26:63-65

When you think of Jesus being tempted, what do you think of? Sexual temptation? Riches? In actuality, Jesus was attacked in the same place you and I are attacked probably every day, His identity: “If you are the Son of God....” Satan is constantly challenging our identity: If you are a Christian..., if you are a believer... Why is this a place of targeted spiritual confrontation for us? Satan knows that our authority comes when we know who we are. Confusion and weakness are what happen when we don’t know who we are. If Satan can keep our identity in a state of challenge, we will never have what we need to succeed. So what’s our identity? Sons.

Ephesians 5:5 says “...*He predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will.*” Sons have a stake in the outcome. They own what they work on. They have access to their father’s house and all that is in it. I remember my sons when they were playing football in high school. They nearly ate us out of house and home! I don’t recall them asking if they could raid the fridge unless they knew mom was planning something. Why would they? They saw what I had as available to them and it was as long as there was responsibility and honor.

The same is true for you and me. As sons of the Most High God, every resource of heaven is available to us: power where there was weakness, courage where there was fear, abundance where there was lack and health where there was sickness. Take a moment and write down the characteristics of God’s House. What is His economy like? Is there a recession in His economy? Is there fear in His house? How about uncertainty? What are the resources of heaven? Now compare how these line up to the challenges you are currently

facing. Replace the “resources” that are defining your challenge with the resources of heaven and describe what that looks like.

Take time this week to consider this: How would you act with God if you knew He wasn't judging you but fathering you as a righteous Father? Would it change the way you pray? Would it make you bolder? Our identity as a son of the Most High is under constant attack. The enemy wants to remove us from our identity. When he is successful, he can substitute the identity he wants for us. This was the attack against Jesus in the wilderness. When we know who we are, we are dangerous! We access the resources of heaven and apply them to our lives here on earth. That's why Jesus prayed, *“Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”*

Take time to make the lists above. Answer the question: What resources in heaven are available to you?

Pray this with me...Father God, I am a son not a servant. A son. What You have, I have. You withhold nothing from me. Today I choose to access the resources of heaven for the challenges in my life so that I can stand up as a man against the struggles. I choose to dominate over the challenges I face. I choose to believe you have released everything You have into my hands and into my life. Abundance. Peace. Success. Health. I choose right now to take authority over (name the challenge you are facing) and apply the resources of heaven which include (name the resources). I don't have to convince you I am worthy. You already decided that when You chose me to be a son of Yours. You have not called me to defeat. You have equipped me for success and I accept it. That's what you expect for your sons. That's what you intend for me. I thank You for it.

What this means to me is:

What I will do about it is:

A Learning Lifestyle

Would you say that you have a lifestyle of learning? Put another way, how much time during the week do you spend planning how to learn the next thing or discussing with someone else a new lesson about life?

Proverbs 4 gives us a peek inside the life of a successful and godly father with his kids. What does this father say is the most important part of life? Degree? Success? Knowing how to save? None of these. Seek wisdom. If he had time for only one thing to pass on to his son, this is what it would be. A life lesson that apparently his father taught him?

“Hear, my children, the instruction of a father and give attention to know understanding; for I give you good doctrine: Do not forsake my law. When I was my father’s son, tender and the only one in the sight of my mother, He also taught me and said to me: “Let your heart retain my words; Keep my commands and live. Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget nor turn away from the words of my mouth. Do not forsake her and she will preserve you; love her, and she will keep you. Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.” Proverbs 4:1-7

He tells his young sons to pursue wisdom like you do that beautiful girl. Be relentless. Attempt to flatter wisdom. Spend time thinking about wisdom and how you might let your heart get excited the next time you meet. Be needed. Be connected. Be known. It starts with wisdom.

In verse 11 he says: *“I have taught you in the way of wisdom; I have led you in right paths. When you walk, your steps will not be hindered, and when you run, you will not stumble.”*

Every one of us wants a life that is secure. We want a life of energy, and confidence, a life that builds day after day. Proverbs 15:24 says *"Life spirals upward for the wise."*

So why is wisdom so important for God's people? I believe if you truly seek to develop a lifestyle that is hungry for truth, you will always find yourself walking toward God. He is Truth. I believe if you are chasing after wisdom, your passion for wisdom will naturally align your path with God's path for your life. If you love, you will care for others. If your life is an expression of wisdom, you will be cooperating with God instead of trying to find Him.

Consider this:

How is wisdom different from knowledge?

Could it be that knowledge is a noun and wisdom is a verb? If so, how do you act wisely?

Can you list two things that have raised your curiosity recently?
What can you do to go deeper with these?

Can you align what you think you have learned about these with what the Word says about it?

What this means to me is:

What I will do about it is:

Your Fight Is My Fight

A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.
Proverbs 17:17

This is a cornerstone verse for Man Up! It's one thing to engage in the fight for you. It's completely different when you count the cost of a fight that doesn't even belong to you and still choose to enter in.

I am convinced that our community of Man Up has gone through some transformational experiences. We have learned about spiritual conflicts. We have learned that, as sons, God the Father calls us to cover our families and each other. Many of us have undergone some deep shifts and healing in who we are. I am equally convinced that the health and strength we carry is meant for more than just our enjoyment. It's meant to give us the strength and willingness to enter into the fight for the brothers that we share life with. If I am a real friend, then it says my love for you and my brothers doesn't allow me to stand by while you are in the heat of the battle. If I am a brother, then I was born to enter into your adversity with you. Your fight is my fight.

So often we forget that the very reason conflict or challenge is in our lives is so we can defeat it and change life for those around us. For those who are in the fight, their faith is sometimes overwhelmed by the circumstances they face. That's why you and I are there. Our faith becomes their faith. Our strength, their strength. We bring our weapons to their fight and their victory becomes our victory too.

Six weapons to use in winning spiritual conflicts:

1. Acknowledge we are engaged in spiritual conflict
Eph 6:10-12: Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

2. You're in the middle of it by God's design.
Eph 3:10: To the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places.
3. Know the outcome before you start.
Rom 8:38-39 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
4. Engage in God's timing, not the enemy's
Romans 12:19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord.
Vengeance is a reaction to a personal attack. God wants us to respond in the fullness of time.
5. Attack to finish it - Be passionate, decisive and violent.
Matthew 11:12: And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force.
David cut off Goliath's head; you can't fight without a head. In the Spirit, commit to victory and nothing less. Be decisive in your prayers and seek victory, not that the conflict stops. We think we want peace but peace is the reward for victory. It's victory we want.
6. Fight until you win...it is life and death for the person you're fighting for. In the heat of the battle we want peace but what we need is victory.
Luke 9:62 But Jesus said to him, "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

Never negotiate peace. Fight with confidence...I have read the back of the book and I know who wins!

Take Action!

Take time today to ask God “Is there spiritual conflict in my life that exists because I have sought to end the conflict rather than pray through to freedom and victory?” Make a list. Ask others to join you one by one until there is victory.

Have you found yourself complaining about challenge and conflict? Choose instead to be thankful for the opportunity to kill the problem once and for all. Write down a key area of conflict or challenge. Now describe what victory looks like in this situation. Share it with your squad. Ask others to join in praying about what that victory looks like.

What this means to me is:

What I will do about it is:

Transfer Faith

Matt 7:20... *"Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."*

Matt 13:31-32 He told them another parable: *"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. Though it is the smallest of all your seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and perch in its branches."*

I recently went on a bit of a journey and found myself at Matthew 7:20. One day during a conversation with God, I heard Him say, "If you want to know more about Me, read my autobiography." I knew in my heart He meant read the parables. These are stories told by God about Himself. In these stories God is essentially the central character and the theme is usually about how to live a Kingdom life.

So what about this mustard seed? How about I boil it down to some simple points?

- Faith is like it
- If I have faith at its smallest capacity, I can do amazing things and face any obstacle that attempts to stop me or the Kingdom
- It can be planted
- It can grow
- It can provide aid and benefit to others

If this is true, I have one simple action to bring God's Kingdom here.

Allow faith in its smallest form to grow in me and then transfer it into others.

It's funny; I seem to have plenty of faith when it comes to other people's fights, but when I am sick, I can't pray myself out of a wet paper bag let alone back to health. Why is that? I am learning that part of it is because faith is a possession. Like a seed. Something I own. As a result, I can transfer it. Once I transfer it, it grows in the soul of the person who receives it.

I remember sitting in the waiting room at the hospital while one of my kids was going through a procedure. There were two ladies sitting with me who I didn't know. Just the three of us in this waiting room and we were waiting to hear news. I came to realize that the two women were mother and daughter. I could hear the prompting of God to talk with them. "So, how are you doing?" I asked. They told me about how the daughter's husband had been in a coma for days and the news was that he would never come out of it. From their accent, I could hear they were from Germany and, no, they didn't have any family here. So I simply said, "Can I pray with you?" The mom nodded her head yes; the daughter was not so sure. So we grabbed hands and I said something like, "Father, I know these two ladies are your daughters. You have good things in store for them and her husband. I know that the doctors have pronounced their opinions. But I am sure the doctors said the same thing about Lazarus just before you raised him from the dead. I don't know if these women know You but I do. I sense they don't have the faith to believe in a miracle, but I do. So I transfer now my faith to them. When they are unsure, they can believe in You because I do. When they don't have the faith to believe for her husband to come out of the coma, they can use my faith. I believe it. When they are afraid of what tomorrow might bring, they can borrow my faith because I know You want tomorrow to be a blessing, just like today. In Jesus' name I pray this. Amen."

Now I don't remember all the details after that but it seems that the next day I ran into them in the lobby. When I asked how her husband was doing, she told me he was awake and recovering. What they needed was someone else's faith so they could believe in a good and caring God.

I ask you, what do you know to be true about God? List three or four things of which you are convinced about God.

Can you think of someone who is in a tough spot? Ask God to bring one or two to mind and write them down. Share these with your squad.

Do you believe God will come to their aid?

How can you transfer the faith you have to them so they can believe too?

When you speak your faith into them, you're transferring the faith you own into faith they can use. Go do it.

What this means to me is:

What I will do about it is:

The Father's House is all about...

...**"Building Solid Lives"**

Just as no one accidentally falls on top of a mountain, neither do we inadvertently build a solid life. It takes discipline (discipleship) and a healthy safe place to be encouraged and be vulnerable. Our aim at The Father's House is to see the grace of God reshape and refocus our habits, values and direction.

Unless we have a picture of spiritual health (Jesus Christ), a road map (The Bible) to guide us and the power (Holy Spirit) to accomplish it, our habits, values and direction will misguide us and keep us from our spiritual purpose and potential in God.

The Father's House believes in teaching men, women and families to develop personal core values (code) which cause our roots to go down deep so we can stay strong and become fruitful in our relationships.

The Father's House is built on the following core values:

Dependence: Remembering that without Him we can do nothing. *"I am the vine and you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from Me, you can do nothing."* John 15:5 (NKJ)

Integrity: Living in the light. *"He who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk just as He walked."* 1 John 2:6 (NKJ)

Relevancy: Being willing to alter style and preference to reach the next generations without compromising the Word of God. *"Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone so that I might bring them to Christ."* 1 Corinthians 9:22(b) (NLT)

Reliability: Doing what you promise, being dependable people who help one another. *“Putting confidence in an unreliable man is like chewing with a sore tooth, or trying to run on a broken foot.”*

Proverbs 25:19 (NLT)

Excellence: Giving your highest effort in all that you do. *“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus.”* Colossians 3:17a (NKJ)

Courage: Facing and conquering your fears and believing God’s every word in every circumstance. *“...without faith it is impossible to please Him.”* Hebrews 11:6(a) (NKJ)

Servanthood: Keeping the attitude of a servant. *“...the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give His life a ransom for many.”* Matthew 20:28 (NKJ)

Safety: Creating a safe environment for us to grow. *“He who fears the Lord has a secure fortress, and for his children it will be a refuge.”* Proverbs 14:26 (NIV)

We believe that godly men (solid) are the answer to covering and leading their families, churches and communities into their spiritual inheritances. We teach the importance of these "vital signs": attendance, serving, giving and participating as key components to our spiritual health and vitality.

Building Together,
Pastor Dan