



THE MAN JOURNEY

The Man Journey

A 7-Step Roadmap

WELCOME TO YOUR ROADMAP

Welcome to the Man Journey. This roadmap will provide you with everything you'll need to lead your *biological, adopted, step, or spiritual sons into biblical manhood*.

Don't worry if you feel a bit intimidated by the whole process. That's normal. Relax, you've totally got this!

This roadmap will provide you with a simple format that you can customize and personalize any way you choose. I provide a 4-week experience that will fit into any man's busy schedule.

Additionally, I provide suggestions & recommendations, samples & templates, discussion starters & powerful questions, and pro tips & tools that will guide you through the process together.



If you just followed the outline as it is written verbatim, it would be a grand slam home run! But when you put your own spin on it to and make it even more special for your son, well, it will be epic for him. .

An exciting adventure awaits! Way to go, Dad, for stepping up to lead you into an unforgettable experience that your son will cherish for the rest of his life, and likely will pass it on to the next generation as part of your legacy.

Your Virtual Mentor,

David

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TIMELINE

7 Steps to Biblical Manhood Initiation

Accomplished in 30 Days

1. The Cast (1 meeting)
2. The Conversation (1 meeting)
3. The Culture (1 meeting)
4. The Core (multiple meetings)
5. The Cool (multiple meetings)
6. The Ceremony (1 meeting)
7. The Cause (ongoing)

OPTION 1

2 weekdays + SAT (morning or afternoon)

OPTION 2

3 weekdays + Saturday (morning or afternoon)

OPTION 3

Saturday (morning & afternoon) + Sunday (afternoon)

FATHER/SON MOVIE NIGHTS

You will need to designate four (4) evenings for a 30-minute teaching video series followed by a movie from our recommended Movie Menu.

STEP #1: THE CAST

We're in this thing together

OBJECTIVE

To cast vision for the Man Journey and secure buy-in from your son

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Schedule a private meeting with your son where you are least likely to be interrupted.
2. Set the expectation that this will be fun, informal, and important for his future success.
3. Clearly state that you feel it's time to invite him into biblical manhood in an unforgettable way.

DISCUSSION STARTERS

Use the following outline as a guide.

GUIDING THOUGHT

"A man becomes a man in the company of men." – John Eldredge, author of *Wild at Heart: Discovering the Secret of a Man's Soul*

I. THERE'S NOBODY LIKE YOU

- A. Affirmation – I love you (not performance-based but simply for being my son).
- B. Honor – I'm proud of you (not for what you've accomplished as much as for who you're becoming).
- C. Respect – I believe in you (you have what it takes to become a strong man of influence).

Talk it over.

TO GO DEEPER

["The 3 Most Important Things You Get from a Father" – Larry Stockstill](#)

II. EXPLORING AUTHENTIC MASCULINITY

- A. In this age of gender confusion, is there more to being a man than being male?
- B. Why should character & integrity matter more than money & fame?
- C. Real examples of real men (Share about men that impacted you positively.)

Talk it over.

III. TARGETS TO SHOOT FOR

- A. Survival – Do you want to know how to live independently someday?
- B. Success – Do you want to learn how to win at work and succeed at life?
- C. Significance – Would you like to learn how to add value to others?

Talk it over.

POINT TO PONDER

“To get what you’ve never got you will need to do what you’ve never done.” – David Robertson

IV. OUR MORNING RITUAL

The Half Hour of Power to start each day strong

- A. Daily Audio Bible (20 min) – the One Year Bible with commentary & a closing prayer
- B. YouVersion Verse of the Day Story (5 min)
- C. YouVersion Bible Plan for Men (5 min) – “True North: LIVE Free 30 Days”

You have two options for doing the morning ritual:

Option (1): Do it together.

Option (2): Do it individually but notify one another when it’s completed, for accountability. (Use the YouVersion private group option to post comments.)

V. Setting up “OUR MORNING RITUAL”

- A. [Download the DAB app](#)

PRO TIP: [Click here](#) to watch instructional video.



How to use the Daily Audio Bible

MY VIRTUAL MENTOR

- B. [Download the YouVersion bible app](#)

PRO TIP: [Click here](#) to watch instructional video.



How to access YouVersion Stories

MY VIRTUAL MENTOR

- C. [Sign up for this Bible Plan](#)

Each of you will sign up now on your smart devices. (One of you will serve as “Host” and invite the other to the Bible Plan.)

Choose tomorrow as the start date for the bible Plan.

PRO TIP: [Click here](#) to watch instructional video.



How to host a Bible Plan in YouVersion

MY VIRTUAL MENTOR

VI. Overview (Read this together)

OUR ADVENTURE: THE MAN JOURNEY

1. The Cast – *We're in this thing together*
2. The Conversation – *Informal talks man to man*
3. The Culture – *Living victoriously in an ungodly society*
4. The Core – *Nailing basic life skills every man needs to know*
5. The Cool – *Having a blast doing crazy fun things together*
6. The Ceremony – *The rite of passage initiation event personalized for you*
7. The Cause – *Taking the next step together in order to keep moving forward in your faith, fitness, family & finances*

CLOSING

- Q&A
- Our next meeting: _____
- Our next step: The Conversation – *Informal talks man to man*
- Prayer

STEP #2: THE CONVERSATION

Informal talks man to man

OBJECTIVE

To open conversation about real issues that real men face

INSTRUCTIONS

Use the suggested outline to facilitate an honest & transparent conversation. Mark any issues that you may need to revisit or go deeper using additional resources.

GUIDING THOUGHT

“Behind every great man are great men.” – Larry Stockstill

I. TOP 5 THINGS I’VE LEARNED ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A REAL MAN

Father: Share your top 5 life lessons.

- (1) _____
- (2) _____
- (3) _____
- (4) _____
- (5) _____

RESOURCE: “TOP 5 THINGS I’VE LEARNED” – David Robertson

- [Download from Google Drive \(DOC\)](#)
- [Download from Dropbox \(DOC\)](#)

II. HOW DO I KNOW I HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

- A. God made you uniquely you.
- B. God indwells Christians with His Holy Spirit.
- C. God left an instruction manual (the Bible).

Talk it over.

III. How do I overcome the fear of failure?

- A. Failure is an event not an identity.
- B. Failure is not final but often the catalyst to innovation.
- C. You can outlast & overcome failure through tenacity & determination.

Talk it over.

IV. How do I define success in life?

- A. Success is a journey not a destination.
- B. Success is linked to fulfilling God's plan for your life.
- C. Success in relationships transcends the accumulation of material possessions.

Talk it over.

V. How do I discover God's will for my life?

- A. Identify your core values & passions.
- B. Discover your natural abilities & spiritual gifts.
- C. Examine your past experiences & future opportunities.

PRO TIP

Envision A, B and C as three circles; where they overlap, that is likely God's will for your life.

Talk it over.

TO GO DEEPER

Explore ["The Chazown Experience"](#) (free online)

VI. How do I know the right girl to marry?

- A. She is a fully developing follower of Jesus.
- B. She is a virtuous woman (Proverbs 31), not a drama queen.
- C. Your Inner Circle of trusted friends enthusiastically approve of her.

Talk it over.

TO GO DEEPER

(1) ["Redeeming Attraction"](#)

Modern Romance, Part 1

Topics like attraction, desire, and relationships aren't normally discussed at church—but they should be.

(2) ["Date Your Soul Mate"](#)

Modern Romance, Part 2

We learn how to date for our soulmate.

CLOSING

- Q&A
- Our next meeting: _____
- Our next step: The Culture - *Living victoriously in an ungodly society*
- Prayer

STEP #3 THE CULTURE

Living victoriously in an ungodly society

OBJECTIVE

To lead a frank discussion towards developing your own family culture and so avoid the pitfalls in modern culture that seeks to undermine the Christian faith and family.

INSTRUCTIONS

Talk your way through the five (5) observations regarding our culture and complete the one (1) assignment to compose your own Family Culture Statement.

GUIDING THOUGHT

“A man rejects passivity, accepts responsibility, leads courageously, and expects a greater reward.” – Robert Lewis, author of *“The Making of a Modern-Day Knight”*

DISCUSSION STARTERS

I. WHERE ARE THE MISSING MEN?

Read the following stats about men and choose those that stand out to talk about.

[Staggering Stats about Men](#)

II. YOUR TRUE IDENTITY

- A. You are not who culture says you are.
- B. You are who God says you are.
- C. You are your truest self when you live in truth.

Talk it over.

III. MEN WERE NOT BORN FOR PORN

- A. Porn is absolutely addictive.
- B. Porn has victims.
- C. Porn ruins relationships.

Talk it over.

WORKING DEFINITION OF SEXUAL PURITY

“A man is sexually pure when he receives sexual gratification exclusively from his wife.”

– David Robertson

THE BIBLICAL STANDARD

“But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people. Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving.”

(Ephesians 5:3-4, NIV)

Talk it over.

IV. YOU WERE NOT BORN TO CONFORM, BUT TO TRANSFORM

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

(Romans 12: 1-2, NIV)

- A. Everybody’s not doing it.
- B. It’s OK to take a stand for what is right.
- C. One person can make a difference.

Talk it over.

POINT TO PONDER

“The time is always right to do what’s right.” – Martin Luther King, Jr.

TO GO DEEPER

[MVM Porn Recovery Kit](#)

V. THE BIBLE IS OUR STANDARD FOR TRUTH AND BEHAVIOR.

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

(2 Timothy 3:16-17, NIV)

- A. Reading the Bible everyday changes everything.
- B. The Word is your spiritual food to grow strong in your faith.
- C. Armed with the truth you can overcome the lies.

Talk it over.

POINT TO PONDER

“A lie believed as true will affect you as if it were true.” – Craig Groeschel

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- Book: “[A Practical Guide to Culture: Helping the Next Generation Navigate Today's World](#)” – John Stonestreet
- Podcast: “[Breakpoint](#)” – John Stonestreet, President of the Colson Center
- YouTube: “[What Would You Say?](#)”

PROJECT: OUR FAMILY CULTURE

The Constitution of the United States governs its citizen’s rights & rules; in the same way, your Family Culture Statement will serve as a guiding document for your family values.

Working together, choose 7 words that you feel are especially descriptive of those qualities in your family culture that you hope to see carried forward to the next generations.

Now choose 7 scriptures that relate to these 7 words.

Finally, compose one sentence that summarizes each culture value.

PRO TIP

Consider transferring these 7 sentences to a document to put on display and share with other family members.

SAMPLE – ROBERTSON FAMILY CULTURE

PDF

- [Download from Google Drive](#)
- [Download from Dropbox](#)

DOC

- [Download from Google Drive](#)
- [Download from Dropbox](#)

[Microsoft Word Template](#)

CLOSING

- Q&A
- Our next meeting: _____
- Our next step: The Core: *Nailing basic life skills every man needs to know*
- Prayer

STEP #4: THE CORE

Nailing basic life skills every man needs to know

OBJECTIVE

Introduce your son to basic life skills to practice and ultimately master to equip him in his future roles & responsibilities as a man.

INSTRUCTIONS

Choose from the menu below or feel free to come up with your own life skill training. Try to employ the teaching style of Jesus for best results (see below). Invite other fathers or friends to help out as needed with skill demonstrations or equipment.

Obviously, this element of the Man Journey will need to be spread out over time for logistics and enjoyment purposes. Your goal is not to create a long check-off list but rather to make the training so much fun, so encouraging, and so affirming that asking you for help is your son's first response, not his last resort. So don't be too critical or harsh when showing him how to do stuff.

GUIDING THOUGHT

"You can't lead where you've not been, you can't teach what you don't know, and you can't give what you don't have." – David Robertson

TEACHING STYLE OF JESUS

- (1) Mission – Here's what we need to accomplish
- (2) Method – Here's how we're going to do it
- (3) Model – Watch me do it
- (4) Mentor – I'll watch you do it
- (5) Multiply – You train others to do it

Talk it over.

SKILLS MENU

Choose from the menu below or create your own list.

Note: If you don't know how to do something, ask a friend, or learn together with your son.

- ☐ An elderly person has just fallen in front of you, what do you do?
- ☐ Basic first aid
- ☐ How to become a millionaire (10/10/80 from now until retirement. 10% tithes, 10% savings & investments, 80% budget)
- ☐ Boundaries: Yours and Theirs
- ☐ Car Basics
 - Never text while driving
 - "So you're broke down on the side of the road, now what?"
 - Never drive under the influence
 - Never horseplay
 - Always arrive alive
 - Always maintain your vehicle
 - Basic auto maintenance
 - Always drive defensively
 - Carry an emergency kit in the trunk of your car
 - How to change a flat tire
 - How to check the oil on a car
 - How to handle being pulled over by the police
 - How to jump start a car
 - How to drive a manual transmission vehicle
 - How to parallel park
- ☐ How to check the fuse box for a tripped fuse
- ☐ How to console a grieving person
- ☐ How to clean a fish
- ☐ How to give your testimony (privately or in public)
- ☐ How to go through a job interview
- ☐ How to grill meat on a gas or charcoal grill
- ☐ How to save a drowning person
- ☐ How to use chopsticks
- ☐ How to light a campfire
- ☐ How to load a dishwasher (or wash them manually)
- ☐ Manly Manners
 - Saying "please"
 - Saying "thank you"
 - Saying "excuse me"
 - Making an apology and accepting an apology

- Introducing your friends to others
- Shaking hands properly
- Saying “Ma’am and Sir”
- Asking permission
- Paying a compliment
- Accepting a compliment
- Knowing when to keep your mouth shut
- Knowing when to speak up
- Meeting people with handicaps
- Selecting a gift
- Writing a thank you note
- Answering the telephone
- Setting up your voicemail message
- Taking a phone message
- How to win graciously (i.e. with an appropriate attitude)
- How to lose graciously
- How to behave in a movie theater
- How to use a napkin
- Knowing which is the correct fork to use
- How to cut meat properly
- Why we put the toilet seat down after use (& always flush)
- Opening the door for others
- Why we should always carry Tic Tacs
- Returning items you borrow
- Making sure your zipper is up
- ☐ How to make eggs so you’ll never go hungry
- ☐ How to make out a grocery list and prepare healthy meals
- ☐ How to create a simple budget
- ☐ How to balance your checkbook
- ☐ Personal hygiene
- ☐ How to prepare a short devotional to speak in public
- ☐ Safety & etiquette when staying in a motel
- ☐ How to say grace over food
- ☐ The basic tools for a toolbox
- ☐ How to sew a button
- ☐ Shaving basics
- ☐ How to shine shoes
- ☐ How to stay safe on the internet (Google safely)
- ☐ How to stop a running toilet
- ☐ Taking care of your fingernails & toenails
- ☐ How to turn off the water in the kitchen or bathroom or at the street to the house
- ☐ Traveling on an airplane (pre-planning, checking in on kiosk, getting through security, ETC.)

- ☐ How to tie your own tie
- ☐ How to wash clothes & use the dryer (in the home and in a public laundromat)
- ☐ What to do in a medical emergency
- ☐ How to wire a ceiling fixture

CLOSING

- Q&A
- Our next meeting: _____
- Our next step: The Cool: *Having a blast doing crazy fun things together*
- Prayer

STEP #5: THE COOL

Having a blast doing crazy fun things together

OBJECTIVE

To plan and participate in fun, recreational, and adventurous activities and make memories to strengthen your father-son bond

INSTRUCTIONS

Try to relax and enjoy each other's company doing fun things together without stressing or forcing fun to happen. If the "fun factor" is lower than expected, abandon it and move on to a contingency plan.

Option 1

Review the Fun Menu together and choose as many activities to do together as your schedule allows during the Man Journey. You can break them up over many days or you can designate weekends to take on bigger adventures together. You may even allow your son to invite a friend or join up with another dad and his son(s).

Option 2

As his father, take responsibility to plan in advance all the activities during the Man Journey – always bearing in mind what your son likes and dislike. You prearrange time off, time away, expenses covered, and other logistics. Then, you surprise him at the right time with the next adventure and the next....

GUIDING THOUGHT

"Deep in his heart, every man longs for a battle to fight, an adventure to live, and a beauty to rescue." - John Eldredge, author of *Wild at Heart: Discovering the Secret of a Man's Soul*

THE FUN MENU

A few ideas to get the ball rolling

- ☐ 5K race
- ☐ 10K race
- ☐ Archery
- ☐ Badminton
- ☐ Basketball
- ☐ Batting cage
- ☐ Bicycling
- ☐ Billiards
- ☐ Bowling
- ☐ Camping
- ☐ Canoeing
- ☐ Catch – frisbee,
baseball, softball,
football
- ☐ Caving
- ☐ Cornhole
- ☐ Croquet
- ☐ Dirt bike riding
- ☐ Disc golf
- ☐ Escape Room
- ☐ Fishing
- ☐ Go carts
- ☐ Go to a pro sport game
- ☐ Golf (rent a cart and let
him drive)
- ☐ Half Marathon
- ☐ Helicopter ride
- ☐ High ropes course
- ☐ Hiking
- ☐ Horseback riding
- ☐ Horses
- ☐ Hunting
- ☐ Kayaking
- ☐ Low ropes course
- ☐ Miniature golf

- ☐ Mountain biking
- ☐ Paintball
- ☐ Ping pong
- ☐ Rock climbing wall
- ☐ Shooting hoops
- ☐ Small plane ride
- ☐ Spring Triathlon
- ☐ Tennis
- ☐ Throwing hatchets at targets
- ☐ Throwing knives at targets
- ☐ White water rafting
- ☐ Workout

FATHER/SON MOVIE NIGHTS

Baked into the Man Journey is a series of strategic video messages by Pastor Craig Groeschel presented in a landmark series for men called “Warrior.” These 30-minute messages can serve as a warm-up before breaking out the snacks and settling in for a great movie. Remember, everything is building toward releasing your son into biblical manhood. These messages are building blocks to that end. Resist skipping out on the messages and going straight to the movie.

This is to be a father/son private viewing and not open to the entire family. This makes it special. Younger siblings can look forward to getting their own private screening with Dad.

The Man Journey recommends scheduling a minimum of four (4) “Movie Nights” to accomplish the following two (2) objectives:

Objective #1: Expose your son to the biblical truths presented in this “Warrior” series of messages. These truths will help galvanize his transition into biblical manhood and shape his worldview.

Objective #2: Provide a special father/son movie experience while viewing strategic movies that carry strong messages to men and their character formation. A short debriefing can follow to collect thoughts, impressions, and answer questions.

A WORD OF CAUTION

Hollywood blockbusters such as “Braveheart,” “Gladiator,” or “300” are culturally considered “manly movies”. But they do not serve our purposes here. We have chosen movies that have a very specific purpose: to inspire him.

Choose from among the movies listed in the Movie Menu below.

FATHER/SON MOVIE NIGHTS OUTLINE

Four (4) sessions minimum, but feel free to establish a new tradition and keep going

WEEK 1 OF 4

A. Warrior – Part 1: [“When It's Time to Throw a Punch”](#)

Warrior

You're a warrior—it's time to step into your calling.

- B. B. Your choice from the Movie Menu

WEEK 2 OF 4

- A. Warrior – Part 2: ["Killing Your Inner Coward"](#)

Warrior

Fight your fear of failure and begin living a life free of hesitation.

- B. Your choice from the Movie Menu

WEEK 3 OF 4:

- A. Warrior – Part3: ["Your Porn Battle Plan"](#)

Warrior

Pastor Craig Groeschel gives us a five-step plan to defeat temptation and overcome the sexual sin that tries to control us.

- B. Your choice from the Movie Menu

WEEK 4 OF 4

- A. Warrior – Part 4: [What Every Warrior Needs to Hear](#)

Warrior

How to let go of the past and step into the future God has for you

- B. This is the only movie we are assigning. Along with this movie there is a document called "The Resolution," which you will print out for you and your son to read out loud together and sign. You may want to display it proudly.

Click on the links below to access the movie and the document.

1. "COURAGEOUS": SYNOPSIS, TRAILER, PURCHASE/STREAM

Go to the "[Courageous](#)" website.

2. THE RESOLUTION – PDF

- [Download from Google drive](#)
- [Download from Dropbox](#)

FATHER/SON MOVIE MENU

Click the links to watch the trailers.

- ☐ ["Show Me the Father"](#) – Amazing film in documentary style featuring pro athletes, coaches, and compelling stories of fatherhood gone good and bad.
- ☐ ["Flywheel"](#) – A dishonest used car salesman gets saved, and it changes the way he does business.
- ☐ ["Facing the Giants"](#) – A struggling coach commits his team and success to the Lord.
- ☐ ["The Ultimate Gift"](#) – A prideful young man in line for a huge inheritance must learn character qualities the hard way.
- ☐ ["Woodlawn"](#) – A football team overcomes racial tension in a segregated community.
- ☐ ["Remember the Titans"](#) – A classic film about overcoming prejudice.
- ☐ ["Rudy"](#) – A hard working young man is willing to go all in to earn a spot on the Notre Dame football team.
- ☐ ["The Count of Monte Cristo"](#) – A tortured prisoner must find forgiveness after his release for the man that betrayed him.
- ☐ ["War Room"](#) – A remarkable elderly woman changes lives from her prayer room.
- ☐ ["Home Run"](#) – A baseball pro overcomes alcoholism by finding Christ.
- ☐ ["The Butterfly Circus"](#) – A touching short film featuring Nick Vujicic, an international speaker who has no arms or legs (this link is the full movie).
- ☐ ["To Save a Life"](#) -

MY MOVIE NIGHT PLAN

WEEK 1 of 4

Day: _____

Time: _____

Warrior – Part 1: ["When It's Time to Throw a Punch"](#)

Your movie choice: _____

WEEK 2 of 4

Day: _____

Time: _____

Warrior – Part 2: [“Killing Your Inner Coward”](#)

Your movie choice: _____

WEEK 3 of 4

Day: _____

Time: _____

Warrior – Part 3: [“Your Porn Battle Plan”](#)

Your movie choice: _____

WEEK 4 of 4

Day: _____

Time: _____

Warrior – Part 4: [What Every Warrior Needs to Hear](#)

- Movie: [“Courageous”](#) +
- Sign: “The Resolution”: [Download from Google drive](#) or [Download from Dropbox](#)

STEP #6: THE CEREMONY

The rite of passage initiation event personalized for your son

OBJECTIVE

To pull out all the stops to honor your son and commission him into biblical manhood

I. PRELIMINARIES

A. DATE/TIME

Choose an evening to serve as a grand finale to the Man Journey where it isn't a school night.

B. VENUE

It is better if this is not done at home in the den or the backyard. For such a special occasion, you may want to reserve a private meeting room at a local restaurant, club or church. It is important that it is private.

You can have food catered in, eat from the menu at the restaurant or do a cookout if you are at an outdoor venue like a campground, cabin or pavilion.

C. ATTIRE

It's up to you: from formal with a jacket & tie, business casual or informal.

D. GUESTS

This is where "The Inner Circle" makes their appearance. The Inner Circle is a small group of men hand-selected by the father, who will attend and participate in the ceremony and commit to making themselves intentionally available to your son in the future.

E. GIFT

This is a special gift you will present to your son to commemorate this occasion. It should have special meaning as acknowledgement of him as a man. Be prepared to explain its special significance.

F. FAMILY CULTURE STATEMENT

Bring a copy of the Family Culture Statement you and your son created together. You will be reading it at the ceremony.

G. THE FATHER'S BLESSING

Below you will find written out "The Father's Blessing". You will declare this over your son during the ceremony. Sign & date it and be prepared to give it to him after you speak it over him.

Note: If you would like to edit this document, we have provided a template for you below:

- [Download from Google Drive](#)
- [Download from Dropbox](#)
- [A Father's Blessing \(Word Doc\)](#)

II. ORDER OF CEREMONY

ORDER OF CEREMONY

- Father: Welcome
- Father: Says a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the meal and evening
- Dinner (father pays the bill)

(Speaking starts when the dessert is served)

- Father: Thank the guests for coming
- Father: "We are here to honor my son being invited into the brotherhood of men."
- Inner Circle: Each man speaks in turn after being introduced by the father.
Each man will:
 1. Validate the young man by sharing one quality about him that he admires and respects.
 2. Stand, read and present the young man with a paper signed & dated which includes:
 - a specially chosen scripture for the occasion
 - 3 top things he's learned about what it means to be a real man
 - a blessing over the young man that was composed for the occasion
 3. Finally, present him with a gift and explain its special significance.

NOTE: The gift does not need to be expensive, as the emphasis is on its significance to a boy becoming a man. Examples include a compass (signifying that there is Truth: True North); a pocketknife (signifying readiness at any moment); or a transformation book like "Model Man: From Integrity to Legacy" by Larry Stockstill, "Kingdom Man" by Tony Evans or "Fight" by Craig Groeschel. If a book is given, a special message should be written, signed and dated.

- Father: Summarize the Man Journey in your own words and what it has meant to you to do this with your son.
- Father: Read this scripture: "When David's time to die was near, he told his son Solomon, 'I am going the way of all the earth. So be strong. Show yourself to be a man. Do what the Lord your God tells you. Walk in His ways. Keep all His Laws and His Word, by what is written in the Law of Moses. Then you will do well in all

that you do and in every place you go.” – King David’s last words to his son, Solomon, who would succeed him as king of Israel (1 Kings 2:1-3, NIV)

- Father: Read some of the Guiding Thoughts we’ve been sharing:
 - “A man becomes a man in the company of men.” – John Eldredge
 - “Behind every great man are great men.” – Larry Stockstill
 - “A man rejects passivity, accepts responsibility, leads courageously and expects a greater reward.” – Robert Lewis, author of *“The Making of a Modern-Day Knight”*

- Father: Read the Family Culture Statement that you and your son created.

- Father: Affirmation: Share as many things as you feel led to about how proud you are of your son and especially for him stepping up to the Man Journey.

- Father: Read “The Father’s Blessing” over your son. Sign & date it and give it him.

- Father: Present your son with a special gift to mark the occasion.

- Father: Have your son come up and stand with you. Invite the Inner Circle to come and join you in laying hands on your son.

- Father: Lay hands on his head and pray a fatherly prayer over him, welcoming him into the brotherhood of men as a man of God. (Invite the Inner Circle to lay hands on his shoulders and join in agreement with your prayer.)

- Father: Have the Inner Circle shake his hand and hug him.

- Son: Invite your son to say anything he wants to say to the group and/or his father. (Do not pressure him to do so.)

- Father: Photo op with his son

- Dismissal

A FATHER'S BLESSING

PRO TIP

[You may want to ask a member of the Inner Circle to video this part on your phone for you.]

I want to begin by declaring a blessing directly from holy Scripture over my son.

This blessing is seen in Numbers 6 as God blessed the children of Israel under the pronouncement of Moses.

[Ask your son to stand before you with the Inner Circle behind him.]

- May the Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine upon and be gracious to you – the Lord lift up His countenance upon you – and give you peace.

And from me, from my heart, as your father – I'd like to bless you in this way:

- May you know your purpose in life – realize your potential – and sow seeds into the lives of others.
- May you fulfill God's plan for your life and one day become a godly husband and father – as a man of God – a man of destiny.
- May your legacy be rich in all the ways that count as true riches.
- From this day forward, may you be a fully developing follower of Christ – and may your life influence others to follow you – just as you follow Jesus – may you become a spiritual father to many.
- May you have courage to become a real man – an authentic man – a brave man who lives for God, for country, for family.
- May you find God's pleasure in all that your hands find to do.
- May you live as a wise man – discerning between right and wrong – and between good and best.

Son,

- You have people to influence that you've not yet met.
- You have lives to change that are waiting for your arrival.

- You are strategically placed where God will take you by His grand design, so that you can become everything He made you to be. This place is the place where you can grow best – where you can be most fruitful, the place where the future is changed because of your presence.
- May you bless your wife and your children – and may they become giants of the faith under the mighty hand of God.

YOU WON'T FAIL (Son, say that with me – say – I WON'T FAIL! Say it again: I WON'T FAIL!)

[pause]

You won't fail because you were made by God to be here for such a time as this.

Son, I have something to say to you...

- I believe in you.
- I am proud of you.
- No matter what, I will always love you as my son.
- I am always for you, and never against you.
- You have what it takes.
- He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion.
- You are fearfully and wonderfully made.
- You can do all things through Christ who gives you strength.
- Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world.

Son, I want to ask you some questions about the Code of Conduct we have chosen to embrace as a community of men of God. If you agree, then join us, the Inner Circle, as we all say out loud, "Yes, I agree."

- Do you agree to reject passivity?
- Do you agree to accept responsibility?
- Do you agree to lead courageously?
- Do you agree to expect a greater reward beyond your life on earth?

DECLARE THIS – PLEASE REPEAT AFTER ME...

- By God's grace, I am becoming a model man!
- By God's grace, I am becoming a kingdom man!
- By God's grace, I am becoming a courageous man!

Amen!

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Celebration!

STEP #7: THE CAUSE

Helping your son plan to keep moving forward in his faith, fitness, family & finances

OBJECTIVE

To guide your son into a life development plan in areas that matter most

I. FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS

Click the provided hyperlinks.

- A. [Watch the My Journey trailer together.](#)
- B. [Read the My Journey webpage together.](#)
- C. [Sign up for the Level 1 of the My Journey Discipleship Experience together as accountability partners.](#)

GUIDING THOUGHT

“Stop trying to be a better man and begin training to be a better man. My Journey offers a simple plan, and if you work the plan, the plan will work.” – David Robertson

II. DISCUSSION STARTERS

HOW TO CHANGE THE WORLD

- A. Change starts with you.
- B. Your changed life will influence others to change as well.
- C. You grow into a leader of leaders.

Talk it over.

CLOSING

- The Man Journey debriefing
- Our next step: My Journey Level 1
- Start Date: _____
- Closing prayer