



MAN UP!

Workout #3: **Manhood**

A Threat to Biblical Leadership in the 21st Century

Get in touch with my *feminine* side?!? Are you kidding me? “I’m really a woman born into a man’s skin.” Say what?!? Assertions that used to be comical in their absurdity have found a foothold within our culture and more troubling, within our churches. It’s gotten so that what it means to be a man and a woman has been watered down into an indiscernible syrup of gray.

If we are going to be the leaders God has called us to be, we have to understand our fundamental identity. What does it mean to be a man? Where do we go to find the answer? Can we find an unchanging anchor for our identity? No doubt. We turn to the place we must always turn, the constant and consistent word of God.

With the following questions, answer on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Flip to Genesis 1:27-28. What does this creation verse tell you about being a man?
2. Now mosey on to chapter 2 verses 15-24. How do these verses flesh out God’s specific purpose and plan for the man?
3. Biologically speaking, if there were some question about whether you are a woman or a man, how would we know?
4. Slide another chapter to the right. In Chapter 3, we read about the Fall and its consequences. Read it. What do we learn about being a man from how God deals with man in vv. 9-11? What do we learn about being a man from the consequences to the Fall in vv. 17-19?

There are two extremes in the world today vying to have the loudest voice on what it means to be a man. One camp seeks to neuter man. These folks blur the line between male and female and erase the distinctions in sexuality. The other has rebelled against that depiction to the extreme. They believe that man is violent and blood thirsty. They believe he should seek sexual conquest, using and abusing as many women as possible.

On your sheet of paper make three headings: The Effeminate, The Brute, and The Biblical Man. Under each heading answer these questions:

1. What’s the difference between man and woman?
2. What is man’s role in the marriage?
3. What is man’s role in the family?
4. What’s man’s responsibility to other men?
5. How does a man prove his worth?
6. Do you find men like these in Scripture?

Commit 1 Corinthians 16:13 to memory.