



Sermon Notes: “Be a Man”

Genesis 1-3, Romans 5:18-19 and Mark 10:45

6.14.26

NAMING THE PAIN:

- Every single person in this room is either assisted or afflicted by the men in their life.
- When men know who they are in Christ, families flourish, churches grow strong, and communities heal. When they don't—everyone pays.

CREATED TO BUILD:

- God made men and women both in his image, and called it very good.
- We reject the lie that being male is inherently toxic. And we reject the lie that being female is inherently inferior.
- From the beginning, God made men to build—to cultivate, to fill, to govern and to guard what has been given to us.

Big Idea

Essential masculinity is the Spirit-formed willingness to build, protect, and lay down your life like Jesus did.

FAILED TO PROTECT:

- Adam was given one job in that moment—to protect—and he failed it.
 1. PASSIVITY. Adam stood right there when his wife was being deceived and did nothing.
 2. HOSTILITY. When God confronts him, Adam blames.
- The real problem isn't masculinity itself. The problem is masculinity disconnected from its design.

REDEEMED, TO LAY DOWN:

- Where Adam failed, Jesus succeeded—and He becomes the model of the man we were always meant to be.

So What?

Sacrificial strength is what building, protecting, and laying down one's life have always looked like at their highest.

For Study, Reflection, Discussion During the Week:

Life Group ICEBREAKER: Has someone ever kept a promise to you when they really didn't have to — when it would have been easy to walk away? What did that moment reveal to you about that person's character?

REVIEW: Review the sermon notes from Sunday. Was there a particular point that stuck with you? What was it and why did it resonate with you?

READ: Genesis 1:26-31; 2:15

- The sermon pointed out that both men and women are made in the image of God, both are blessed, both are commissioned — and God's verdict on the whole arrangement is "very good." We are told to reject two lies: that maleness is inherently toxic, and that femaleness is inherently inferior. Honestly, which of those two lies have you been more exposed to — in the culture around you, online, or even in church? How has that shaped the way you think about men and women?
 - The sermon made the point that the problem isn't masculinity itself — it's masculinity disconnected from its design. A river without banks. Power without purpose. A gift severed from the Giver. Where have you seen that disconnect play out — either in your own life, in men around you, or in the broader culture? What does it look like when the drive to build or protect goes unshaped by God's design?
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READ: Genesis 3:1-12

- When God confronts Adam, he doesn't own it — he blames his wife and God in the same breath: "The woman you gave me." The sermon called this the second sin of fallen masculinity: hostility toward the very ones we were called to protect. Where do you see this pattern most clearly in yourself — the tendency to deflect, blame, or go on the offensive when confronted with something you got wrong? What does it cost the people closest to you when you do?
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READ: Romans 5:18-19 | Mark 10:45

- Paul sets up a direct contrast: where Adam was passive in his garden, Jesus was active in His. Where Adam hid from his Father, Jesus faced His and said, "not my will, but yours." Where Adam blamed his bride, Jesus laid down His life for His. The sermon said Jesus walks all three verbs — build, protect, lay down — and becomes the model of the man we were always meant to be. Which of those three contrasts between Adam and Jesus hits you the hardest personally, and why?
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DEPLOY:

- *Name Your Adam Pattern* -- The sermon said every man is somewhere on this map — and that includes the pastor. This week, honestly identify which pattern you default to most: passivity (present but disengaged, going quiet when you should speak, letting things go that you should address) or hostility (blaming, deflecting, going on the offensive when confronted). Share it with one person in this group. Not to be shamed — but because naming it is the first step to the Spirit doing something about it.
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Don't Forget:

- Next week is Father's Day!
 - 4th of July FUN (Families United) 12-4 at Enterprise Christian Church. Use the sign-up sheet on the welcome desk to let us know what you'll be bringing
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Prayer:

Father, we must be honest with You — and with ourselves. Every man in this room has stood in the garden at some point. We have been physically present and spiritually absent. We have gone quiet when we should have spoken. We have blamed when we should have owned it. We have hurt the very people You put us in the room to protect. And some of us are carrying wounds from men who did that to us. We bring both of those things to You tonight. For the men here: do the work only You can do. Root out the passivity. Soften the hostility. Form us into something that looks less like Adam and more like Jesus — the Man who didn't dominate or disappear, but built, protected, and laid His life down for His bride. For those in this room who have been hurt by men who got it wrong — bring Your healing. Remind us that the church taking this seriously is not too late. And remind every person here that the second Adam is not done with any of us yet. We are being formed into something. Help us choose who we're becoming — every day, every word, every silence, every choice. May the men of this church look different than the men of the world. Not because we're trying harder, but because we belong to a better Man.

In Jesus' name, Amen