Create and Cultivate

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The manhood realities discussed in session one should be a startling ____________________ call for all of us.

2. We want to bring _________________________ to our confusion about manhood.

II. THE ORIGINAL MANHOOD DESIGN: CREATE AND CULTIVATE

1. In chapter one of Genesis, we see God model ____________________ through two specific actions:

   • God ____________________

   • God ____________________

2. Genesis 1:27 “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him.” (ESV) God intended man to be like ____________________.

3. Genesis 1:28 “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” (ESV) God has given us a mandate to ____________________ and ____________________.

4. God created men to be ____________________ and ____________________ leaders.

The material in this session has been influenced by Timothy Keller, “The Prodigal God: Recovering the Heart of the Christian Faith” (Dutton, 2008); Andy Crouch, “Culture Making: Recovering Our Creative Calling” (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2008); Mark Driscoll, “The Birth of John the Baptizer.” Online: http://www.marshillchurch.org/media/luke/the-birth-of-john-the-baptizer
5. When men don’t lead, ________________ follows.

- Consider the disorder and confusion that occurs in a home when a father abandons his responsibility to raise his children.
- Statistically, children growing up in father-absent homes are far more likely to die in infancy, live in poverty, end up in prison, use drugs, be abused, or drop out of school.

6. Masculinity is not about just being a _____________________________ leader. It’s about having the courage to just do it.

III. MISUNDERSTANDING GOD’S DESIGN

1. Adam __________________ in these areas. He did not show the courage to lead.

- Genesis 3:6 “So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes ... she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.” [ESV]

2. There are two typical “misses” when it comes to experiencing God’s best for our life.

1) The way of the ____________________________ [Genesis 3:6]

- Adam and Eve chose their own way over God’s ____________________________.

2) The way of the ____________________________ [Genesis 3:7]

- Those who try to ____________________________ themselves with good behavior and try to ____________________________ their way into God’s favor.

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^For more information on the typical “misses” to experiencing God’s best see Timothy Keller, The Prodigal God: Recovering the Heart of the Christian Faith (Dutton, 2008).
IV. GOD’S SOLUTION

1. God _____________________ for Adam and Eve despite their sin.
   - Genesis 3:21 “and the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.” (ESV)

2. God has made provision for us through his son, ____________________.

3. Jesus not only models an inspiring masculinity, He also ____________________ us to live it ourselves.

4. Just like Adam and Eve, we are all _____________________.

5. Our sin is an ____________________ to a perfect and holy God.

6. Here is the good news, God gives us grace through Jesus:
   - Romans 5:8 “God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” (ESV)
   - Romans 3:22 “Righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.” (ESV)
   - 1 Timothy 2:5 “There is one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus.” (ESV)
7. Only by placing our trust in Jesus can we have salvation as well as the __________________________ that fuels the Authentic Manhood we’re talking about.

To further explore trusting Jesus with your life, check out the online video at authenticmanhood.com.

V. MISUNDERSTANDING MANHOOD

The same misses of Adam and Eve, the fruit and the fig leaves, can show up in the “misses” of today’s conventional manhood.¹

1. Men who choose the way of the fruit become ____________________consumers.
   
   • They become totally obsessed with ________________________________.
   
   • 1 Corinthians 15:45 tells us that our model, Jesus, is a _______________________ spirit.

2. Men who choose the way of the fig leaves become _______________ and _______________.
   
   • They take pride in what they _________________ do.
   
   • They would rather _____________________ than create.

3. Without a clear __________________________ of Authentic Manhood, we will all be tempted to be childish consumers or cowards and critics.

¹ For more information on the idea of men acting like “childish consumers” or “cowards” and “critics” see Mark Driscoll, “The Birth of John the Baptist.” Online: http://www.marshillchurch.org/media/luke/the-birth-of-john-the-baptizer.
VI. CONCLUSION

1. How should we respond to God’s mandate for us to create & cultivate?
   - _______________ Jesus for our salvation and look to Him as our model for Authentic Manhood.
   - Embrace the mandate today:
     - Have courage to live it out at work according to how God has _______________ you
     - Be creative with your wife, cultivating that relationship by giving her something to anticipate
     - Be a _______________ for your kids by leading them as you passionately follow God

2. This session was about the big picture of our manhood mandate. In the next session, we will explore a clear and compelling biblical definition of what it means to be a man.

DISCUSSION / REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. How are you creating and cultivating in the different roles in your life? As a husband? As a father? At work? As a friend? Are you being a “life-giving spirit” (1 Corinthians 15:45)?

2. Are you more tempted to run away from God toward the pleasures of this world (the way of the fruit) or are you more likely to try to impress God with your accomplishments (the way of the fig leaves)?

3. What has God provided for us through Jesus?

4. Is it easier for you to be a consumer or a critic?
SUPPORTING RESOURCES


*The content in the supporting resources above does not necessarily reflect the opinion of Authentic Manhood. Readers should use these books as resources but form their own opinions.*