

Training – 1 Timothy 4:6-8

Q – How do you initially about this idea of training?

Q – What does it take to be a “good minister?” (verse 6)

- Be a great leader
- Organizational skill
- Good marriage
- Wife needs to be a great...
- Great parent
- Biblical expert
- Role model for the church
- Personal and church finances in order
- Good public speaker
- Great counselor for grief, marriage, family, finances, conflict resolution, career guidance, physical conditioning
- Would help if you know AV
- Tough as a lion and gentle as a lamb; hard-headed and open-minded

Paul indicates that we CAN be a good minister. But in order to do so, we need to do what he says here in 1 Timothy 4 – to be **trained spiritually**.

I, as well as the rest of the OC staff, are here to train you.

- I believe in every one of you
- Lessons, practicals, challenges, opportunities, testimonies – we have a lot to share and are excited to share it!

This training doesn't only rely on the staff...

- Vs 7 – train *yourself*
- Vs 13 – devote yourself
- Vs 15 – give yourself
- This spiritual training largely depends on you and how willing you are to train *yourself*.

Q – What might we need to be trained effectively?

- Real – humble, open, vulnerable, etc.
- Reliable – here (on time), your brothers can count on you
- Responsible – being men who get the job done
- These are expectations of those who will be a part of this group

Going into our lesson this evening...

God has a design for man – masculinity was God's idea
God designed men to follow his example to LEAD

Q – What qualities do you think of when you hear the phrase “man of God?”

The First – Adam (Genesis 1-3)

3 responsibilities of manhood given to Adam:

1. God gave Adam a **WILL** to obey (Gen 2:16-17)

God dictated the rules – there was a will greater than Adam's that he must obey
There is a will greater than ours that we need to obey – we cannot dictate our own rules

2. God gave Adam a **WORK** to do (Gen 1:28)

Work was not a curse – it was the responsibility given to Adam
Work allows us to follow God’s example to create, cultivate, protect
Our work is not a curse, but a way to become more like God and be used by God. This is a blessing!

3. God gave Adam a **WOMAN** to love (Gen 2:22-24)

God provided a companion for Adam for intimacy, for fellowship
“Woman” for us can mean the woman we end up with, but also our sisters in the body of Christ

After Adam’s failure, God’s design for manhood had been corrupted, broken and was in need of repair.

Q – How have you done with the responsibilities God has given you as a man:

- A will to obey?
- A work to do?
- A woman to love? (use the church as the “women”)

Jesus, “the 2nd Adam” (Romans 5:12-19, 1 Corinthians 15:45-47)

The Bible calls Jesus the 2nd Adam (Romans 5:17 – referring to Adam)
Verse 19 – through one man (Adam) sin (and death through sin) entered the world, but through another man (Jesus), righteousness entered the world.
One man’s example is worth rejecting; the other’s is worth following

Q – How do you see Jesus being *the* example of masculinity?

Adam brought sin into the world – Jesus brought righteousness

Jesus came to restore God’s standard and vision of masculinity:

- By Genesis 4, Adam had failed on all 3 responsibilities of manhood
- Throughout his life, Jesus excelled in every area - Jesus was *able* to accomplish all that Adam wasn’t

“Every man will follow in the shadow of one of these two men – we will either walk in the darkness of the first Adam, or walk in the light of the second (Jesus).” --- 33 Series

4 Components of Authentic Manhood:

1. Reject Passivity

- **Adam** – in the moment of the fall, he was a coward (Genesis 3:6)
 - We would like to believe that “if he were there, he would’ve stepped in – as the *man*”
 - Adam was with his wife when all this was going down!
- **Jesus** – took action, initiated, and deliberately humbled himself” (Philippians 2:5-8)
 - Jesus initiated – he stepped up – “he humbled *himself*”
- RQ – What do you?

2. Accept Responsibility

- **Adam** – disobeyed and “passed” on the will of God
- **Jesus**
 - Obeyed the will of God (John 4:34)
 - Accepted the work that God gave him to do (John 17:4)
 - Fulfilled the responsibility of a “woman to love” (Ephesians 5:25)

3. Lead Courageously

- **Adam** – abandoned his post of leadership; took a back seat
- **Jesus**
 - Provided direction for others (Mark 1:17)
 - Provided protection for others (John 10:11)
 - Provided life for others (1 Cor 15:45, John 10:10)

4. Invest Eternally

- **Adam** – invested in the temporary, what would satisfy him in the moment
- **Jesus** – invested in what would last eternally (Matthew 6:19)
 - He was in the moment, but also looked ahead with vision

This is manhood worth living and fighting and dying for!

“But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called when you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.” --- 1 Timothy 6:11-12

Q – What stood out to you in the lesson?

Q – How does God’s definition of manhood differ from the world’s?

Q – Which of these “components of manhood” would you say is your strength? Why?

Q – Which components do you most struggle with?

- Why?
- How can you be less like Adam and more like Jesus in that area?
- What are you going to do in the next week to put that into practice?

CHALLENGES:

Memorize 1 Timothy 6:11-12

Fill out “qualities” handout (rate 1-5) and bring a copy with you next time