

INTRODUCTION

God looks for men (Ezekiel 22:30). Jesus carefully chose twelve disciples. The Bible gives requirements for various areas of usefulness.

1. Acts 6:3 - To care for widows
2. Acts 13:1-3 - To become missionaries
3. Acts 15:26 - To carry a message
4. Acts 16:1-3 - To travel with Paul and Silas
5. I Timothy 1:12 - To serve God in the ministry
6. I Timothy 3:1-13 - Pastors and deacons
7. Titus 1:5-11- Elders
8. II Timothy 2:1-5 - Spiritual warriors
9. II Corinthians 6:3-10 - Means of ministry
10. II Corinthians 11:1-33 - Sufferings
11. Revelation 14:3,4 - 114,000 Witnesses

God is looking for men HE can use. Churches and Christian families should work to provide a continual stream of men usable by God. Each saved man should labor to build character, knowledge and experience so that God might use him.

In Romans 12:1,2 God commands that we present ourselves unto Him. This command is built on the illustrations from the Old Testament of Job 1:6, Job 2:1, and I Kings 22:19-22. This act of obedience is not only the individual presenting himself to God, but the church presenting workers to God.

The first matter mentioned in the presentation is the body. It is to be holy and acceptable to God for His service. It is to be under such control that it can be a living sacrifice. The body is the carrier and servant of the soul and spirit. Preparation of the body would certainly include development of skills and abilities so as to better glorify God.

Each individual being presented should be living in non-

conformity to this present evil world. This applies to one's spirit, soul, and body. This world's system includes motives, principles, loves, methods, goals, pleasures, purpose of life, covetousness, fame, security, finances, time usage, values, etc.

A key part in the presentation for usefulness is the mind. The believer is to be constantly renewing mind, which will lead to a transformed life. He should know, do, and prove the perfect will of God.

In Matthew 22:14 we are told, "many are called, but few are chosen." One application of this verse would fit here. Many are called to present themselves so that God can choose whom He would use. This does not decrease the value of the called and faithful who are not chosen. "They also serve who only stand and wait." -- John Milton

BUILDING MEN for the KINGDOM

Lesson #1 -- FAME

(Romans 12:1,2- an issue of the mind)

I. TEST OF CHARACTER

Words to understand:

Character- what we are revealed under pressure

Reputation- what people think we are

Ambition- desire to rise

Pride- high thought of ourselves

Humility- seeing ourselves as God sees us

Glory- praise, honor... it belongs to God!

II. SUCCESS

1. Joshua 1:7-9 -- better to live a significant life than a successful one
2. I Timothy 3:6 – fame can lead to failing
3. Colossians 3:22
4. Galatians 1:10

III. FAILURE

1. James 4:6
God's grace given
Humble vs. Proud
View of failure: Other's eyes?

Our eyes?
God's eyes?

2. Words to consider:

Discouraged

Defeated

Faithfulness

Challenged

Ballast

Learning Situation

3. When you are passed over

Humbled?

Rejected?

Ignored?

4. Character is revealed by our responses to

Praise or flattery

Position-Ezekiel 28:13-16

Opportunity

Ambition-Isaiah 14:13,14

Glass ceiling

- by others

- by self (destructive)

- by God's grace and wisdom

BUILDING MEN for the KINGDOM
Lesson #2 -- FORNICATION

Fornication vs. Virtue

Proverb 6

II Peter 1:5-7

II Timothy 2:1-4, 22

I Timothy 3:1-13

Titus 1:5-9

Revelation 7:4-8; 14:3-5

While fame is a test of character for true humility, fornication and/or the temptations of lust are a test for morals. Failure in this area clearly disqualifies a man from the ministry and is a blot on the testimony of Jesus. Since Israel will provide 144,000 virtuous men for the Lord during the tribulation, surely the church of Jesus can do as well or better.

Consider God's words in this subject:

Proverb 6:20-24 - Get and keep commandments for protection.

- Consider the character and behavior of the opposite sex.
- Guard against the effects of flattery.

Proverb 6:25. - Guard your heart when around attractive women.

- Guard against the effect of a woman's eyes on your thoughts.
- Women will use flattery, appearance, and eyes to take or

capture men.

Proverb 6:26.- Some hunt for men to bring them down.

Proverb 6:27-29 - This sin results in a loss of innocence.

Proverb 6:30-32 - Sin in this area exposes a lack of understanding

- This sin brings a destruction to the soul and defilement of the body. (I Corinthians 6:15-20)

Proverb 6:33 - This sin brings a wound, dishonor, and a permanent, unreliable reproach.

Proverb 2:16-19 - This sin puts one over the scarlet line with no return possible.

- Future ministry is damaged (destroyed) in certain areas of life.

BUILDING MEN for the KINGDOM

Lesson #3 - FINANCES

Matthew 6:19,20

Earn all you can,
Save all you can,
Give all you can,
For as long as you can.
-- John Wesley

I. HONESTY - Exodus 20:15

- A. No stealing - Judas
- B. Trustworthy - Paul and Barnabas
- C. No deceit - Ananias and Sapphira

II. CONTENTMENT - Exodus 20:17/Hebrews 13:5

- A. No covetousness
- B. Simple living - I Timothy 6:6-11; II Timothy 2:4
- C. Flexible - Philippians 4:11,12

III. DEBT - Romans 13:8; Proverbs 22:7

- A. Honor
- B. Testimony
- C. Freedom vs. Bondage
- D. Liberty to serve

IV. STEWARDSHIP - I Corinthians 4:2; II Corinthians 9:6,7; Malachi 3:8-11; Philippians 4:17-19

- A. Giving
- B. Distribution
- C. Enablement

V. KNOWLEDGE and PRACTICE

- A. Causes and cures of poverty
- B. Sowing and reaping

- C. Math skills
- D. Power of interest
- E. Savings and investments
- F. Buy, lease, rent
- G. Estates and wills
- H. Power of attorney
- I. Health costs
- J. Slow-down vs. retirement
- K. Advise/help others
- L. Riches vs. death
 - a) Accumulation
 - b) Development
 - c) Maintenance
 - d) Distribution
- M. Skill development
- N. Alternative employment
- O. Education
- P. Faith - Philippians 4:18,19
 - a) For others
 - b) For self

BUILDING MEN for the KINGDOM
Lesson #4 - FORTITUDE
II Samuel 23:8-39

- I. COURAGE - I Corinthians 16:13
 - A. Daniel +3
 - B. David
 - C. Joseph
- II. CONSISTENCY - I Peter 1:13
 - A. Stick to it
 - B. Grit
 - C. No quit
 - D. Without stubbornness
- III. CONFLICT FACED –
II Samuel 10:9-14
- IV. COUNSEL - Proverb 24:6
 - A. Sought
 - B. Gathered
 - C. Applied
- V. COMPROMISE REJECTED
 - A. No surrender
 - B. No rabbit blood
- VI. COMMITTED - See it Through –
II Timothy 2:1
- VII. COMPETITIVE SPIRIT
 - A. Zeal
 - B. Press forward
- VIII. CHARACTER IN SUFFERING –

Job 34:7, II Corinthians 6:4-10;

II Corinthians 11:23-30

A. Absorb attacks without striking back

B. Suffer pain, weariness, disappointment, set-backs
(David, Joseph)

BUILDING MEN for the KINGDOM
Lesson #5 - FOUNDATIONS
II Peter 1:1-7

I. FAITH

- A. Saved
- B. Live
- C. Give
- D. Pray

II. VIRTUE

- A. Character
- B. Power
- C. Holiness
- D. Unworldly,
- E. Christ -likeness

III. KNOWLEDGE

- A. Bible - II Timothy 2:15
- B. Wisdom - Proverbs
- C. Fear of the Lord - Proverb 1:5
- D. Understanding - to explain logically and clearly
- E. Insight into others - thoughts, motives, principles
- F. Skills in speaking, writing, science, math, etc.

IV. TEMPERANCE

- A. Restraint
- B. Moderation
- C. Physical stability
- D. Balance, endurance

V. PATIENCE

- A. Emotional maturity, stability, and endurance

B. God's timing

C. Endure trials

VI.GODLINESS

A. Spiritual maturity, stability, and endurance

B. Conformed Biblically

C. Transformed into a new creature

D. Gifts of the Spirit in evidence

E. Fruit of the Spirit evident

VII.BROTHERLY KINDNESS

A. Actions

B. Attitude

C. Basis of a servant

D. Basis of Leadership

E. Basis of ministering

VIII.CHARITY - I Corinthians 13

A. Love in action

B. Act of proper serving, ministering, leading

BUILDING MEN for the KINGDOM
Lesson #6 - FAMILY

I Corinthians 7:1-17 - Family
I Corinthians 7:32-37 - Singleness
I Corinthians 11:3 - Husbands and wives
Ephesians 5:22-33 - Husbands and wives
Ephesians 6:1-4 - Parents and children
I Timothy 3:1-15 - Church leadership
I Timothy 5:4,8,14 - Responsibilities
Titus 1:5-11 - Church leadership
Titus 2:1-8 - Qualities of men and ladies

Introduction:

1. Recommended "Framework for Families."
2. Home is far more than two married people living together.
3. The quality of a family creates potential for future usefulness.
4. Family failures handicap future usefulness.
5. God lays a greater value on home qualifications than gifts, training, and knowledge.

I. STRUCTURE

- A. Know what makes a family a family.
- B. Understand the Biblical structure and its functioning.
- C. Develop the qualifications for good husband material.
- D. Recognize the qualifications for the making of a

good wife.

E. Understand the husband-wife relationship:

- a) Picturing Christ and the Church
- b) Ability to lead through power, prayer, love, and righteousness

F. Understand the parent-child relationship.

- a) Picture God and the believer
- b) Control, correct, guide, develop, and strengthen

G. Take time, but do not worship family.

H. Extended family - time, focus etc.

- a) Grandparents
- b) Parents
- c) Siblings
- d) Aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, etc.

II. STABILITY

A. Consistent in changing times

B. Dependable in varied circumstances

III. STRENGTH

A. Overcoming obstacles

B. Handling attacks of the world, flesh, and devil

C. Resilient through weakness of economy, health, emotions, and friendships

IV. SERVICE

A. Family serving God

B. Help family members serve God

C. Prepare future servants

D. Plan generationally to serve

V. SOLUTIONS

A. Find answers to problems

B. Evidences of answers to

onlookers

- C. Prepare to help this unlearned generation in re-establishing the "old paths"

VI.SUSTAINED

- A. Doctrinally
- B. Separation
- C. Morally
- D. Financially
- E. Until death
- F. By God's help

VII.SUCCESSFUL

- A. By God's standards
- B. For God's Kingdom
- C. Through God's Word
- D. Unto God's goals

BUILDING MEN for the KINGDOM
Lesson #7 - FERVENCY

I. CONDITION - Fervent, zealous

Titus 2:13,14 - diligent

Proverb 22:29 - diligent

II Corinthians 7:11 - zeal

Revelation 3:19 - zealous

Romans 12:11 - fervent in spirit

James 5:17 - Fervent prayer

I Peter 1:22 - love one another with a pure heart
fervently

I Peter 4:11 - minister according to ability

Consider: single-minded

focus

fanatic (fan)

drive, force, energy

motivated

fully dedicated, yielded,
committed, involved

excited

press forward

II. CHARACTERISTICS

Romans 12:1,2 - living sacrifice

Romans 8:29 - confirmed to the image of Jesus

Romans 8:37 - more than conqueror
Philippians 3:10 - made comfortable to HIS death
Acts 15:25-27 - hazard lives for Jesus
Revelation 12:11 - loved not their lives unto the death
Revelation 6:9-11 - die for Jesus

Contrast - alternatives

lazy
slothful
sluggard
untoward (Acts 2:40)
self-centered
self-indulgent
self-entitled
passive
fearful
bored
uninvolved
slacker

