

TRUE MEN MINISTRIES

“Behold, there is a man of God in this city, and he is a man who is held in honor; all that he says comes true. So now let us go there. Perhaps he can tell us the way we should go.” 1 Samuel 9:6

Welcome to issue number twelve of the TMM Newsletter. Happy November!

In this issue we'll take a brief look at four things to think about when starting a men's ministry in your church. This is just an overview. Check the TMM website in the near future for a more in depth look at how to start a men's ministry in your church.

1 *Understand that it is really a “sub ministry” under the umbrella of the overall mission and ministry of your church. Answer the question, “Why do we need it?”*

One of the early criticisms I heard after I started a men's ministry in my church was, “why do we need a men's ministry? That's so male chauvinist!” I think the criticism came because they misunderstood what I was trying to do. I was NOT trying to create a men's club, but a ministry to men and for men. When you are starting a men's ministry in your church, understand that it is a *ministry*, not a club. You are going to serve men. You're going to help them grow in their faith in Jesus Christ. This will have the effect of making stronger families and a stronger church.



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The Official True Men Ministries Web site. www.truemen.org

We are hosted at Yahoo but we could always use help in paying for the website space. On the website are several Bible studies that I've put together and led at my church's men's and adult Bible studies. There are also recommendations of music, videos, and books that can be ordered through our Amazon.com portal.

2 *Don't give in to the temptation of envy. Other men's Bible studies and ministry have dozens or hundreds of men each week.*

When I first started a men's Bible study, I modeled it off of the men's Bible studies I was seeing elsewhere like at Saddleback Community Church in California or the Man in the Mirror Bible study in Orlando, Florida. But after a year of leading the Bible study, I was severely disappointed that I didn't have hundreds in attendance like those two Bible studies did. I had to repent of the envy I was feeling. After all, I wasn't a Patrick Morley or a Kenny Luck! I was me. I didn't have their gifts, I had the gifts that God gave me. I couldn't just copy what someone else was doing. I had to follow God's leading. He gifts the study leader with certain gifts. Follow where God is leading with those gifts.

3 *Set goals for your ministry that are attainable, sustainable, and calculable.*

It's important to understand *why* you want to start a men's ministry in your church. First find the right goal. A good, general goal to give glory to God. But we'll need to unpack that a little so that it is more specific as it pertains to men's ministry. Making a man a disciple of Jesus is an attainable goal that is also sustainable. It is also calculable in that you can measure your progress. Not just by how many men you are discipling, but also by how far along they are traveling on the road to being a disciple.

4 *Get you senior pastor on board but don't make him run it.*

The most important part of starting a men's ministry is getting your pastor or senior pastor to agree that a men's ministry is needed. If he doesn't see the need, then he won't support it. And if he doesn't support it, it will not happen in that church. But it is also important for him to understand that you are seeking his prayer and approval but NOT asking him to run the men's ministry. It is quite likely that he doesn't have the specific gifts need to run a men's ministry.

Please pass on this newsletter to your church's men's group or pastor. Please visit the True Men Ministries website at www.truemen.org You can email us as admin@truemen.org

You can support our ministry by sending your donation to:

*True Men Ministries
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