

Where Are The Men?

Mike Sandlin, NCBM Men's Ministry State Coordinator

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If you have a hundred men in your church, how big is your men's ministry? Sometimes our assumptions and paradigms limit us from seeing the bigger picture. This is true with men's ministry. We need to understand how to maximize the kingdom impact of every interaction your church has with every man.

The second most asked question I hear is, "How can I keep the men involved?" You are concerned because the men are not coming to the monthly breakfasts or men only events and you are not sure why. The most asked question is, "How can I get the younger men involved?" Well, unlike a few decades ago when men seemed eager to gather together on a Saturday morning, men, especially younger men, are busier than they have ever been. So, to answer both questions we must change our approach on how to reach the men to develop relationships thereby encouraging discipleship.

To do this we need to shift our thinking from the concept that only the men who attend the monthly breakfasts or a men's only event is a part of your men's ministry. Start thinking of men's ministry as an 'all-inclusive' men's ministry; in other words, that every man connected with the church is part of the men's ministry. Begin by thinking and making a list of everything your church does that touches any man. This will be a major paradigm shift for most churches. But by doing this it will help to understand that anything a church does that touches a man's life also impacts a man's life. When you begin to understand this, you will also begin to understand that everything the church does that touches men, is a part of men's ministry or ministering to men.

To reach the men and help them grow in Christ we must go to where they are at. I don't remember reading in the word where Jesus said, "We'll disciple you if you come to our activities or events." He said, "Go and make disciples." God is calling us to go to where our men are and disciple them there. Jesus went to where the people were at and said, "Follow me."

Put on your thinking caps and begin to think of all the areas your men are involved. Here are a few to get your thinking juices flowing;

- Sunday School Teachers
- Community projects
- Youth Workers
- Choir, Praise Team, or band members
- Ushers or Greeters
- Disaster Relief

Are there other areas men are involved in your church that we didn't list? You should be able to add to this this.

After you have compiled this list begin to think how can you minister to these men? We need to be reaching every man that has any connection to the church. Your surveys we discussed in the last article should include these men.

Next month we will talk about some ideas that you can do to reach these men once you discover where they are at. From the man on the fringes to the man who is actively involved in the ministries of the church.

Together in the challenge and adventure to disciple men – Mike