

Men Need Men August 2020

If there is one thing this COVID Crisis has taught me is that there is still much work to be done within the walls of the church. A recent Barna Research Report of a survey that was performed in May 2020 tells us that only 35% of the people are still attending their pre-COVID church, another 14% has switch churches, while 32% have stopped attending and the remaining 18% are viewing on-line multiple churches throughout the month - in other words, virtual church hopping.

Those of you who know me know that in ministering to men I often quote Matthew 7:21-23,

“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, didn’t we prophesy in your name, drive out demons in your name, and do many miracles in your name?’ Then I will announce to them, ‘I never knew you. Depart from me, you lawbreakers!’ (CSB)

This is why I want to encourage you as leaders in Ministering to Men and as men in general that we must be about the Father’s work especially in these strange times we live. We must be intentional in our engagement of the men in our churches and communities. Many of these men only experienced any type of connection with other men when they were in church and rarely if ever experience any type of connection to encourage spiritual growth during the rest of the week.

When was the last time you have picked up your phone and called another man just to encourage him, or maybe send him an encouraging text, or if you are comfortable, invite him to lunch? Men need each other. Scriptures bear this out as well. Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 says,

Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their efforts. For if either falls, his companion can lift him up; but pity the one who falls without another to lift him up. (CSB)

We need each other. I need you. You need me. We have got to have each other’s back. We do not need to leave any man behind.

I encourage you to make a list of the men in your church you know and begin contacting them regularly. Maybe you can start a small group with three or four of them. One of the highlights of my week is the meeting I have with a group of men on Wednesday mornings. I look forward to this as much as I look forward to Sunday morning gatherings. These men have become my best friends over the years. The banter, the serious discussions we have as we work our way through various books and bible studies, and the prayer time we have with each other.

So as you are coming out of the summer months start reaching out to the men of your church. Create those small groups to share, study, encourage, and pray for each other. Never in the life of the church in our lifetimes have we seen such a need for men to join together.

Together in the challenge and adventure to disciple men - Mike