



MANHOOD JOURNEY



EMBARKING

← PACK YOUR BAGS AND GO →



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EXPERIENCE. TRUTH.

GROUP guide



MANHOOD JOURNEY



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EMBARKING GROUP GUIDE

06 WEEK 1: PREPARING FOR THE JOURNEY - THE "FIVE BIG ROCKS"

Manhood is a lifelong journey that requires us to:

TRUST God
KNOW his Word
PRAY Fervently
BUILD Relationships
SERVE Others

16 WEEK 2: SETTING OUT ON THE JOURNEY

28 WEEK 3: RELYING ON THE COMPASS

A Godly Man Trusts God

40 WEEK 4: SEEKING GUIDANCE ALONG THE WAY

A Godly Man Knows His Word
A Godly Man Prays Fervently

56 WEEK 5: ENCOUNTERING OTHERS ALONG THE JOURNEY

A Godly Man Builds Relationships
A Godly Man Serves Others

70 WEEK 6: WE HAVE EMBARKED – WHERE TO NEXT?

LEADER OVERVIEW

NOTE: Bible verse references are from the New International Version unless otherwise noted.

Group leader: Read this letter of introduction prior to your first group meeting. You may decide whether or not to share it with your group.

Dear group leader,

Why do we need to lead our sons on a journey into godly manhood, anyway? Won't it happen on its own?

That's what the world wants us to think. But only we, as fathers, want the best for our sons. No one else can match our intense desire. The world doesn't care about godliness, the Bible or heaven. Therefore, its view of manhood is skewed toward materialism and self-gratification. It has no thought of eternal consequences. Jesus is simply a good man to non-Christians, on par with other great men in history.

Our sons' journeys to manhood should be found in Christ's own model of manhood. But, of course, even with this strong foundation, our sons' development can be influenced by friends, classmates, teammates, other men, TV, video games, music and more.

Some type of manhood will be learned, whether it's one we like or not. That's why you, as group leader, have an extremely important job. As you teach what the Bible says about being a man, you will also need to encourage dads not to let their sons stray from this narrow path.

Be on guard. You and the dads in your group may not be fitted for battle—but Satan is, and he wants to “steal and kill and destroy” (John 10:10). Knowing this, are you prepared to suit up and head out to fight next to the men and boys under your guidance?

At the end of the book of Matthew, Jesus reveals the believer’s mission in life: to “go into all the world and make disciples,” (v. 28:19). If this is our goal, then making disciples should start with our sons. Make sure your dads realize this. It can motivate them for the journey ahead.

Fear may also serve as a motivator for taking our sons on the journey. In Luke 18:16, Jesus says, “... Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them ...” And in Luke 17:2, He tells us, “It would be better for them to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around their neck than to cause one of these little ones to stumble.”

As a father, these are sobering verses to hear. As a leader, you need to let your dads know the seriousness of their responsibility.

Thank you for stepping up and leading these men. You are helping to train future fathers, leaders, husbands and soldiers.

Now it’s time to lead your troops into basic training. Let the Manhood Journey begin!

In Christ,

The Manhood Journey Team



EMBARKING WEEK 1



PREPARING FOR THE JOURNEY

THE BIG ROCKS

MEET AND GREET

(20 minutes)

For the first 20 minutes, have the dads and sons introduce themselves. Ask them to share one thing they hope to gain in the coming weeks, or simply tell why they joined the group. Additional questions could be favorite sports, how many siblings, pets, dads' work, favorite school subjects, etc. Talk about why you wanted to lead this group.

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THE VISION & PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY

(10 minutes)

The goal in this section is to “tee up” the modules and discuss the group’s purpose. Use the following to help guide your discussion:

- *The goal is to have groups of fathers/sons cover certain topics in small-group format.*
- *This first module is to set the stage, help us get to know each other and get an overview of what we call the “Five Big Rocks” of godly manhood.*
- *As a group, we’ll be able choose future modules together. Topics range from work to relation-*

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ships to prayer, to various keys to biblical manhood and maturity.

- *Tonight we'll begin by watching and discussing a demonstration of the "Five Big Rocks," then we'll focus on the first "Rock" next week.*
- *Optional – Ask everyone (including dads) who their favorite superhero is and why. Follow up with a question about why these heroes are manly.*



ASK ALL: Have everyone help define manhood. Ask lots of “why” questions. Write down their key elements of manhood, and review them at the end of the discussion (*You'll pull this back out after the demonstration and ask everyone to add to his definition, based on what he has seen*).

DEMONSTRATE THE “FIVE BIG ROCKS”

(5 minutes)



Leader, watch the following video to see a powerful visual illustration. Then, adapt it for your group and do the demo live, using kitchen implements and perhaps some rocks and gravel from your yard.
www.manhoodjourney.org/big-rocks

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DISCUSSION

(15 minutes)

Leader Says: So, the “Five Big Rocks” are: 1) Trusting God, 2) Knowing his Word, 3) Praying Fervently, 4) Building Relationships and 5) Serving Others.



ASK ALL: What thoughts crossed your mind during the illustration? Which of the “rocks” are things you’ve already thought about? What other “rocks” do you think we missed? *(We’ll cover many more topics than just these, but if you get these down, the others will fall into place.)*

Leader Says: *[Pull out the Manhood Journey map.]* Let’s look at where we’re going during the different lessons. Over the next few weeks, we will discuss these big “rocks” one at a time. After this introductory module, we’ll decide which one we want to do next.



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ASK ALL: Listen to the definition of manhood we wrote. What would you change or add to it based on what we've learned so far?

CLOSE WITH PRAYER

(5-10 minutes)

As the leader, you can pray, unless someone else seems eager to do so. Make sure you mention each father and son by name, and thank God for bringing them to the group.

FATHER/SON HOMEWORK

Leader Says: Between now and the next time, see if you and your son can memorize the “Five Big Rocks”:


MEMORIZE

A GODLY MAN

1. Trusts God
2. Knows His Word
3. Prays Fervently
4. Builds Relationships
5. Serves Others





 **ASK ALL:** What other “rocks” would you add to this list? (*Work, worship, etc. Make the point that this isn't ALL manhood is, it's just a list we've chosen as a basic overview to get our conversation started.*)

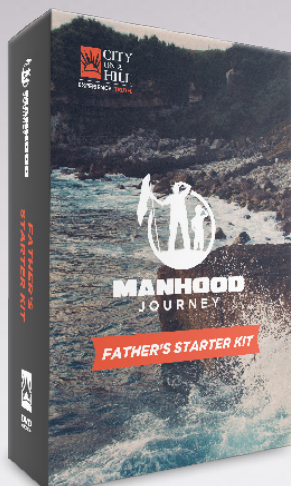
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Everyone, make sure to bring a Bible next week!



MANHOOD
JOURNEY



CONTINUING A MANHOOD JOURNEY GROUP IS EASY

This kit contains everything you need to begin your journey, including:

- Embarking Group Guide - 6 week discussion on the five key areas of Biblical Manhood
- 1 on 1 Guide for daily activities and study with your son(s)
- DVD of the introductory videos for the first 6 modules
- (10) Maprochures - an informational brochure/ map of the first 6 modules

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GROUP GUIDES

*on 6 key topics of
biblical manhood*



1 ON 1 GUIDES

*for daily activities &
discussion with your
son(s)*



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AT MANHOODJOURNEY.ORG**



MANHOOD JOURNEY



EMBARKING **GROUP** guide

The Embarking module is the starting point for all groups. It will help you and your guys get oriented to five key areas of Biblical manhood – the five “big rocks” we must be sure to pack first on our journey. We discuss the idea that a godly man trusts the Lord, prays fervently, studies God’s word, builds relationships and serves others. This module will get fathers and sons talking with straightforward questions and easy-to-tackle subject matter.

EACH WEEK FOR SIX WEEKS, you and your group will get together to talk about a topic on Biblical manhood and do activities together.