

## Father's Day 2025 // John 7-8; Genesis 2:7-25

### John 7:40-8:10

- 7:40-52 = Increasing Opposition to Jesus, but also examples of men moving towards Jesus in faith in spite of opposition
- 7:53-8:10 = Famous story (likely not in original manuscript) about Jesus' protection of a woman, physically and spiritually

### Genesis 2:7-25 / Romans 12:2

- **Don't Be Conformed to this World**
  - **Lack of Courage**
    - Characterized by Fear or Passivity
    - Political Correctness
  - **Lack of Control**
    - Characterized by Anger or Pride
    - Cultural Stereotypes
- **Be Transformed by the Renewing of Your Mind**
  - **Renewed Vision of Identity (Gen. 2:7-9)**
    - Not God, therefore humble
      - Valued and Loved by God
      - Worship and Fear of God
    - Not animal, therefore disciplined
    - Not boy, therefore responsibility
      - Both men and women grow in maturity
      - Male responsibility is unique (Gen. 2:15)
    - Not woman, therefore chivalrous
      - Both have strength
      - Male strength is unique (1 Peter 3:7)
  - **Renewed Vision of Purpose (Gen. 2:15-16)**
    - Work and Keep
    - A Holy Purpose
      - Threatened by many forces
      - Requires work and hope
      - For the Glory of God, the good of others, and my joy
  - **Renewed Vision of Belonging (Gen. 2:17-24)**
    - Alongside Women
      - Marriage; Purity; Value
    - Alongside Other Men
      - Iron sharpens Iron
    - \*In Homes, Churches, and Communities
- **Gospel Hope and Healing**
  - Genesis 3 = sin, death, brokenness
  - Genesis 3:16 = "The Lord said to the serpent... 'he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.'"
  - John 8:10 = "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on, sin no more."

### **A Starter Book**

The Men We Need: God's Purpose for the Manly Man, the Avid Indoorsman, or Any Man Willing to Show Up, by Brant Hansen

<https://www.amazon.com/Men-We-Need-Purpose-Indoorsman/dp/0801094526>

### **An Academic Book**

The Toxic War on Masculinity: How Christianity Reconciles the Sexes, by Nancy Pearcey

<https://www.amazon.com/Toxic-War-Masculinity-Christianity-Reconciles/dp/0801075734>

### **A Sermon**

What Makes a Man? - Village Church (Matt Chandler) - April 27, 2025 (\*series of 5 sermons)

<https://www.thevillagechurch.net/resources/sermons/what-makes-a-man>

### **A Podcast**

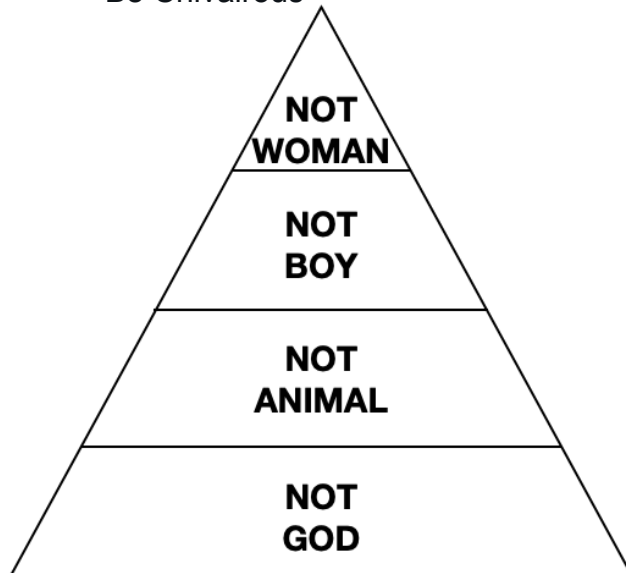
Authentic Masculinity (from Seth Truitt)

<https://sethtruitt.com/authentic-masculinity-podcast>

### **The Masculinity Pyramid (Seth Truitt)**

#### **Four Core Questions:**

1. *How is man different than God?*  
finite, limited, under authority:  
Be Humble
2. *How is man different than animal?*  
moral, visionary, imago dei:  
Be Disciplined
3. *How is man different than boy?*  
capable of self-leadership, care:  
Be Mature
4. *How is man different than woman?*  
biology/testosterone/strength:  
Be Chivalrous



### **Resulting Core Masculine Virtues:**

(based on creation, cultural stereotypes)

- **Humility:**
  - not God
  - rightly ordered self-esteem
- **Discipline:**
  - not animal
  - rightly ordered desire
- **Responsibility:**
  - not boy
  - rightly ordered authority
- **Strength:**
  - not woman
  - rightly ordered strength



## **Scripture**

### **Genesis 1:27-28**

*So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."*

These verses teach what God created men and women to do and be together. We are equally in His image. Be fruitful and multiply (physically in the family; and extended into the New Testament, spiritually in the church). Have dominion; don't be animals.

### **Genesis 2:15-18**

*The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.*

*And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."*

*Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."*

God created man to live in a garden (you're finite AND you're valuable) and to work and watch over this garden. Work is a good part of life; watching over and caring for others is good. - Be responsible, not selfish.

God's design for life is good and right. We don't live out of control. Freedom doesn't mean doing whatever we want to do. - Be obedient, not rebellious.

God created us for relationship with Him and with others. We need help. This isn't weak; this is actually part of God's plan. - Be vulnerable, not prideful.

### **Romans 12:1-2**

*I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*

Because of sin, masculinity has been distorted. We live with lies about masculinity; with flesh that craves the living out of these lies; with a world that reinforces the lies.

We must not be conformed to the pattern of the world, but be transformed by the renewal of our mind – through God's Word, God's Spirit, and God's People.

### **1 Thessalonians 4:3-7**

*For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness.*

What is God's will? Sanctification. God's will is primarily about who I am becoming; secondarily, His will is about decisions regarding where to live, whether and who to marry, and what job to take.

Pursue holiness and be faithful to what's in front of you. When we do God's will in these ways, the other decisions (house, family, job, etc) will follow.

Sanctification centers especially around the body; and these issues of sexuality, body, and self-control impact every other area of life.

### **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

What is God's will? Rejoicing, praying, and giving thanks. When? Always!

Men must reject bitterness and blame. Instead, they are called to celebrate God's work, admit their need for God, and live with gratitude for God and others.

### **1 Peter 3:7**

*Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.*

When men recognize their responsibility and strength, the result is not that women are devalued or afraid. Instead, women thrive, because they are valued and protected.

When men don't take the initiative to understand their wives and other women around them, these men won't be in a right relationship with God and won't be able to fulfill their purpose, because their prayers are hindered.

And, circling back to Genesis 1 and 2, men and women are BOTH made in God's image – to display His love, glory, holiness, and design in the world and to experience God's free gift of life, both now and forever.