



MILLENNIUM MEN

A WORKBOOK FOR BIBLICAL MANHOOD

Discovering *Your Purpose*

*A scriptural foundation for the journey to become who
God designed you to be.*

WEEK ONE · SAMPLE

M2 · THE MILLENNIUM MEN SERIES

PART ONE

Introduction

A foreword from the author, and the scriptural foundation to read before you begin the journey.

INTRODUCTION

Foreword

I wrote this manual — for that is what it is, a manual for men to live an abundant, fulfilled, meaningful life. It is a step-by-step guide to becoming, at the highest level Maslow or Stephen Covey ever thought possible, aligned as men with our Creator and His wishes and dreams for our lives. This is a manual to step out into the great adventure, as Bilbo Baggins stepped from the safety of the Shire into the unknown that changed him forever — so that upon his return to the familiarity of the Shire, he could no longer stand living there. He had attained his higher purpose, his calling, and his destiny. This is a manual to help men discover their God-given purpose.

I'm a business consultant by trade. I've sat across the table from hundreds of men throughout my years as a consultant and asked the question, "Why are you here? What is your purpose in life?" Through this rudimentary survey, I've seen the vast majority of them — almost all, save for the few — hang their heads and whisper, as if half lost, "I wish I knew." These are not the indigent or the sloven. These are not men drifting from job to job, woman to woman. Some of these men are anchors in their churches, solid husbands and fathers, politicians, multi-millionaires, and what society would call "winners." Many times they would ask if I knew mine, to which I would shake my head and say, "I am in the same boat as you, my friend."

For years I searched and longed for the answer to one of the great questions — perhaps the greatest question: "Why am I here?" I began to pray and seek. I read psychology books, books about manhood, spiritual books, and I read my Bible. And it was there that God revealed to me my purpose, and the purpose of every man. For we are all born into the same human condition; we are all men, built of the same stuff. Our souls long for the same things. We are all made by One Creator. He designed us all.

I am no more qualified to write this manual than any other man who has walked the face of this earth. Perhaps I am less so, for I am no scholar, philosopher, or esteemed thinker. I accepted a job with just six semester hours left before I would have graduated with an English degree, and I never went back for the sheepskin. I have made so many mistakes and blunders that I cannot count them all. It is by the grace of God that I'm still in business; in fact, it is by His mercy that I am still alive.

But when I tell men that I know the purpose of their life, they perk up and say, "What is it? How can I know my purpose?" I tell them my story, for that is the one I know best. I tell them how I grew up, how broken I was until I found Christ. I tell them how I searched out the answer not as an Existentialist, with myself at the center of the question, but as a follower of Christ, with Christ at the center — and I found a deep and satisfying answer. I found the illumination of God's Truth resonate with my spirit, and I hold these Truths to be self-evident. When you read them, I believe you will have the same "Aha" moment I did, and it will change your life. It will give you purpose and direction. That is my ultimate prayer.

A WORD ON THE TIMES WE LIVE IN

There is another reason to spell out these words. There is a deep heresy being fed to an unwitting world, and perhaps an unwitting church. Like most evils, it is disguised as good — even the good of equality — yet men are being diminished for the sake of "the goodness of all." The world has coined a phrase, "toxic masculinity," which casts all masculinity that is strong, competitive, competent, and powerful as dangerous. Regardless of the protection it has provided or the freedoms it has won, it is now deemed unnecessary.

If I were the enemy of this world, I would attack men. I would deem them worthless and lump all of them into the category of "dangerous" or "outdated." I would emasculate them and disenfranchise them from the rest of the world. Men no longer know how to be men. Are we to be the stoic, dutiful, honorable man — or are we supposed to weep at our daughter's dance recital and let the woman lead, for it is her time? The advice "Happy wife, happy life" gets twisted into a worldview that relinquishes us from decision-making and siphons our God-given spiritual authority in the home.

Like many of the enemy's lies, it is a half-truth.

1 PETER 3:7 · NIV

Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

Here, the Holy Spirit through Peter tells us how to treat our wives — and even puts a condition upon it: "so that nothing will hinder your prayers." This isn't a suggestion; it is a commandment. In most marriage vows we promise to "honor" our wives, as if we still know what that means. We must define honor. We must define respect and consideration in order to fulfill the commandment — otherwise our prayers will be hindered. There is a direct correlation between how we treat our wives and how God hears us. That is profound, and something to pontificate.

I believe our manhood lies somewhere between the stoic John Wayne caricature and the effeminate creature the world is trying to cast as "modern man." We should be dutiful, sometimes stoic, yet there is nothing shameful about the beauty of a father's love for his daughter displayed in tears at a recital. We are to be respectful and courteous — but that does not mean always acquiescent. Our houses aren't democracies; we are the leaders. Good leaders take advice, listen to their teams, and move forward with every piece of data they can muster within the proper time. But good leaders don't always submit. Jesus didn't say, "Blessed are the peacekeepers." He said, "Blessed are the peacemakers."

There is no better contrast than between Chamberlain and Churchill. One refused to engage Hitler no matter how shredded the Treaty of Versailles became; the other understood that to stop a bully you

sometimes have to go to war. Meekness isn't weakness. Meekness is having the strength to engage, but exhausting all peaceful solutions before engaging in battle. That is our job as servant-leaders. That is part of the character of Christ, and therefore should be ours as well.

My hope is that this manual will help define manhood as God sees it — your role within your family, and the reason God made you. That is my prayer. Enjoy the journey.

INTRODUCTION

Scriptural References

I refer to the following scriptures throughout the course. They are placed here for your reference — take a moment to read through them before you begin the workbook journey.

YOU ARE CALLED

John 15:16

¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit — fruit that will last — and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

2 Peter 1:10–11

¹⁰Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election. For if you do these things, you will never stumble, ¹¹and you will receive a rich welcome into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

YOU WERE DESIGNED
FOR A PURPOSE

Proverbs 20:5

The purposes of a person's heart are deep waters, but one who has insight draws them out.

It takes insight to draw out your purpose.

1 Peter 2:9

⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

GOD HAS A TASK
FOR YOU

Ephesians 2:10

¹⁰For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

2 Timothy 1:9

⁹He has saved us and called us to a holy life — not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace, given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time.

GOD HAS A PLAN
FOR YOU

Jeremiah 29:11

¹¹"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

**SATAN HAS A PLAN
FOR YOU**

Job 1:7

The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the Lord, "From roaming throughout the earth, going back and forth on it."

John 10:10

¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

**YOU ARE A WARRIOR ·
YOU ARE IN A WAR**

Ephesians 6:12

¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

2 Corinthians 2:10–11

¹⁰ Anyone you forgive, I also forgive... ¹¹in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

Forgiveness is essential to thwarting the schemes of the enemy.

CALLED TO VICTORY

Hebrews 12:1

Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

Matthew 16:18–19 · ESV

¹⁸You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven...

Matthew 11:12 · Joel 3:9–10

From the days of John the Baptist until now, the Kingdom of Heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. Prepare for war! Rouse the warriors! Beat your plowshares into swords.

**THE MAN IS ESSENTIAL
TO THE SALVATION OF
HIS HOME**

Acts 16:29–31

The jailer fell down before Paul and Silas and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, you and your household."

**WHY WE BUILD NEW
NEURAL PATHWAYS**

Proverbs 23:7 · KJV

For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he.

**THE NEED FOR
ACCOUNTABILITY**

James 5:16

Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

Matthew 28:19–20

Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all I have commanded you.

**MY GIFTS & THE
ASSURANCE OF
VICTORY****2 Timothy 1:6–7**

⁶Fan into flame the gift of God which is in you... ⁷For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love, and self-discipline.

Romans 8:37–39

³⁷In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life... ³⁹nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

M 2 · W E E K O N E

Biblical Manhood

Discovering our purpose — who, when, and why we exist.

QUESTION 1 · BEFORE YOU BEGIN

What does it mean to be a man?

WEEK ONE

God's first command to Adam

The first thing God ever told Adam is found in Genesis.

GENESIS 1:28 • NIV

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

God expects man to be fruitful, to multiply, and to subdue the earth. God designed Adam to be a multiplier and a subduer! And if that was Adam's design, then it is also your design. To prove it, consider two scriptures. First, **Isaiah 55:11** tells us God's Word never returns void: "It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." Which words that come out of God's mouth will not return void? *Every* word. So the very first command God gave Adam is a command still echoing throughout eternity.

And as God commanded Adam, so God commands us. God is not a respecter of persons — **Acts 10:34** — He shows no favoritism. Therefore what God spoke to Adam, He is speaking to you: "Be fruitful and multiply. Subdue the earth." Your first calling as a man is to be fruitful with *everything* God has given you. You can't be fruitful with something He didn't give you, nor can you multiply zero. Therefore God has given you gifts, abilities, talents, attributes, and people around you that He wants you to multiply. Furthermore, there are beasts of the field — and of the spiritual realm — that God wants you to subdue.

This is quite contrary to what the world is trying to make of men. We can hardly turn on the television without seeing a commercial where the man is portrayed as bumbling, aimless, and clumsy. But God doesn't see us that way. He sees us as men who subdue, men who multiply, and men who are fruitful. How do we engage? How do we fight? We raise up men and train them to be the spiritual warriors they are called by God to be.

MILLENNIUM MEN IS DESIGNED TO HELP YOU...

- ◆ Understand who, when, and why we exist
- ◆ Resolve issues with authority and our fathers
- ◆ Understand the role of the Holy Spirit
- ◆ Build accountability relationships
- ◆ Deal with past personal pain and issues
- ◆ Know the tools we have for warfare
- ◆ Learn how to share your testimony
- ◆ Understand your specific, God-given purpose

Let's cast off fear. Let's be action-based, not just talk.

Let's commit to being the spiritual leaders of our homes.

WEEK ONE

Men, you were designed to conquer

ROMANS 8:37 · NIV

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

This might be my favorite verse in the whole Bible. Men, you were designed to conquer! And the good news is that Jesus has already beaten the enemy. He has won, and He has all authority on earth and in heaven — **Matthew 28:18**: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."

Do you feel like a conqueror? Do you feel like you could literally battle the forces of evil and come out victorious? If you don't, then you need to go through bootcamp. You need to discover the warrior within and get yourself ready, because the world is turning and the enemy is active. Jesus may have won the war, but there are still battles to be fought. Every person, every single life, is worth fighting for — the addicted, the poor, the depressed, the broken, the forsaken, the orphan, the disabled, the heartbroken, the listless, the cowardly, and all who are affected by every scheme the enemy has designed against them and us.

Our fight is for souls, and the stakes are eternal. This is part of your purpose. **Part one of your purpose is to enter the battle.** The problem is, most men have never engaged. My brothers, it's time to engage. There is so much at stake, and we need you in the fight.

WEEK ONE

What is a Millennium Man?

DEFINITION

A surrendered Christ-follower engaged in the spiritual battle for his family, his church, and his friends. A man who is a good steward of all his resources and is actively advancing the Kingdom of God by fulfilling his purpose through spiritual warfare and making disciples.

QUESTION 2

What is man's purpose? What is *my* purpose?

YOU ARE MADE WITH PURPOSE IN MIND

EPHESIANS 2:10 · NKJV

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

You were designed to do good works. Another way to say that is: you have a destiny. Have you ever felt a deep yearning inside you for a destiny you were certain was there, but uncertain how to attain? That's because your true purpose is only found when you are completely submitted to the will of the One who made you.

Imagine you were an alien who landed on earth, had never seen a riding lawnmower, and had no owner's manual. You might fire it up and use it to get to work or run errands — but you'd be completely missing its purpose. Eventually you'd find a Subaru and abandon the lawnmower, thinking it wasn't nearly as effective for transportation, and you'd be right. How frustrating that would be, if you were the lawnmower!

WEEK ONE

Your design reveals your destiny

I believe most men aren't being used for the exact purpose God designed for them. Many men diminish themselves with self-talk like, "I'm worthless," or "I'm not good enough." This isn't true. You must stop diminishing the creation God so carefully made — you.

Maybe you're not a Ferrari; maybe you're the finest John Deere tractor ever built. All of us were designed *with* a purpose and *for* a purpose. **1 Corinthians 12:12** says there are many parts of the body — some we can see and some behind the scenes — but all are worthy, useful, and important. Paul was

writing about usefulness and purpose within the church, and churches are made of people with different sets of gifts. You were created for a purpose, and your design reveals your destiny.

God made the earth in six days and rested on the seventh. He made the Grand Canyon, the rivers and lakes, the mountains and beaches, all the wonderful places people flock to year after year just to envision the artistry of our God. But He didn't make *you* in six days. He took His time.

PSALM 139:13–14

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

My mom went through a crocheting phase in the early '80s, and she would crochet for hours. It took her almost a whole year to make each of us a blanket. I didn't appreciate it then, but she carefully chose the colors each of my brothers would receive. She put her heart into it — and so did God when He made you. He carefully chose every detail, from your eye color to your sense of humor. None of it was haphazard. God didn't leave out anything you need, and He didn't give you anything you don't.

Let me clarify something: your purpose isn't your vocation. It's not your job. God's purpose for you is much larger than your nine-to-five. **Ecclesiastes 3:11** says He has made everything beautiful in its time, and He has set eternity in the human heart. Somewhere deep inside, you *know* your place in history is an eternal one. I think often about how people desire to be famous, even for a moment. I believe that carnal desire stems from a deeper one God placed within us — only misguided in its search. Nothing the world gives — not fame, not fortune, not money or power — will ever fulfill the desire for eternity within your heart. God made you for a purpose, and that purpose is eternal.

WEEK ONE

What lasts forever

QUESTION 3

What am I willing to die for? Perhaps that is what is worth living for.

You may be asking, what purpose of mine could possibly last for eternity? In one thousand years, no one will remember who won the Super Bowl in 2020. Even the most famous players will barely be a footnote, and probably not even a vapor of thought a million years from now. So there is nothing you can accomplish that makes an eternal impact — except to invest in the one thing that lasts forever: people. Our souls are eternal. God made us in His image. Your body is breaking down every day no matter your age; even the greatest athlete grows old and dies. But our souls live forever, and each soul will spend eternity either in Heaven with God or separated from Him. No one decides that but ourselves.

Most of you taking this class probably already know Jesus as your personal Savior. You're here because you want a closer walk with Him and to discover your purpose in Him. But I would be remiss if I didn't share the miracle that God freely gave us — His Son, Jesus. Jesus was a real man who walked this earth; there is more historical evidence for Him than for many figures we never question. He was fully human, yet He performed many miracles. His final miracle was rising from the grave after being crucified, proving He was God. Over five hundred people saw Him alive after the crucifixion, and many gave their lives rather than recant their testimony.

Jesus came because He wants to reconcile you to Himself. Since Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit, God has been preparing to reconcile Himself to mankind. Why? Because He loves you and wants a personal relationship with you. Every man since Adam has chosen to sin; at some point, so have you. I once heard that if everyone stood on the shore in San Diego and had to swim to Hawaii, whoever swam farthest would still fall short and drown. None of man's righteousness can reach God. Only Jesus is the bridge. **John 14:6** says, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

THE INVITATION TO RESPOND

No one gets to Heaven through Mary or John or Peter. No one gets there because of their mom or grandpa. We are each responsible for our own relationship with Jesus. The Bible says many will think they are saved, but in the end Jesus will say, "Depart from me, I never knew you" — because, though they did many good works, they didn't truly *know* Him. Most of the world knows the President's name, but only his child can call him at any hour and get a response.

I often hear, "I couldn't believe in a God who would send people to Hell." My answer usually surprises them: God doesn't send anyone to Hell. He lets people make the choice. You can choose Jesus, who has paid the price for your sin, or you can pay for your own sins. Please don't make the mistake of trying to pay for your own. The cost is eternity, separated from the God who loves you and made you. Everything good in you comes from Him — even the breath in your lungs. God is love, and He loves you.

THE DECISION TO SURRENDER

Right now, I'm praying that God would reveal to you that you are a sinner — just like me — and that you need a Savior, just like me, just like everyone on earth. We all need the saving grace of Jesus. His love is waiting. **Revelation 3:20** says He is standing at your heart's door, knocking. If you open the door, He will come in and sup with you. What a meal! The One who made everything desires to share a meal of peace, joy, and love with you. Do you feel anxious, or broken, or sad? Jesus is the answer, and you will feel a peace you cannot explain.

Don't enter this moment lightly. Some say salvation is free, but it isn't — it will cost you the life you wanted; it will cost you everything. When we give our lives to Christ, we say, "You are Lord." We cannot call Him Savior without calling Him Lord. There are many who think they're saved but have never truly made Him Lord. Would you like to do that now? If you pray these simple words and believe them in your heart, you will be saved.

A PRAYER OF SURRENDER

God, I know that I'm a sinner and that I need a Savior. I am turning away from my sin and my own will, and I accept Jesus Christ as my Savior and the Lord of my life. Please send your Holy Spirit to dwell in me, change me, and mold me into the man you desire. I ask this in Jesus's name. Amen.

A WITNESS OF GRACE

Thank you for praying that prayer. Whether it's your first time or your thousandth, there is something wonderful about calibrating your soul to the King of Kings. He is a good and faithful God. He is love —

that's not one of His attributes, that is who He is. You may have felt judgment from other Christians, or people pretending to be Christians, but the Bible says God doesn't judge you until the end. **Romans 2** says it is the kindness of God that draws men. His grace, His kindness, and His love for you do not diminish, no matter where you are or what you've done.

I've had men tell me God could never forgive them. That's a lie the enemy wants you to believe. One of the most prolific serial killers in U.S. history was radically saved in prison and is now a prolific evangelist — David Berkowitz, known in the summer of 1976 as the "Son of Sam."

In 1987, ten years into his sentence, a stranger approached Berkowitz in the prison yard and said, "David, Jesus Christ loves you. He wants to forgive you, and he sent me to this prison to tell you this." At first, Berkowitz refused to believe Jesus would save a man like him. But one day, reading Psalm 34:6 — "This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him and saved him out of all his troubles" — David knelt on the hard prison floor and wept. At that moment, the Son of Sam died. The Son of Hope was born.

— THE PRISON ALLIANCE, [CLI.WORLD](http://cli.world)

No matter what you've done, God can forgive you. The Prison Alliance estimates Berkowitz's testimony has since brought over 200,000 inmates to faith in Jesus Christ. God can use your past, no matter what it is. So welcome to the Kingdom — today, we are brothers in Christ. That's why I greet most men as "brother," because if they're not my brother in Christ yet, my goal is that one day they will be.

WEEK ONE

A new creation

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

When we make Jesus the Lord of our lives, we become a new creation. The old man dies and a new one is born, spiritually. So right now — whether this is the first time you've prayed that prayer or you're rededicating your life — you are made new. You were dead in spirit, and now you are alive. Hallelujah! Mark the calendar: today is your new birthday, your true birthday.

I remember the day I stopped pretending. My life was falling apart, and I dropped to my knees and gave Jesus my life. I had prayed the prayer of salvation dozens of times, but on July 12, 1998, I truly surrendered. I knew the truth — I had grown up in church — but I always wanted what the world

offered first. That was the day I knew what the world offered was worthless, and all I wanted was what God had for me. Ever since, God has been refining me like a silversmith refines his masterpiece, gently removing the dross until He can see His reflection in His creation.

OUT OF EGYPT

There is a correlation between our walk with Christ and the Israelites' walk out of Egypt, across the Red Sea, into the wilderness. Egypt is a life of bondage and sin; the Red Sea is the redeeming blood of Christ. The moment we cross over, a miracle happens — God makes a way where there was no way. A powerful army, the army of Satan and his minions, was set on your destruction. But no human could have parted the Red Sea, and no human born in sin was ever going to provide a way for your salvation.

Only Jesus lived a perfect life — born of a virgin, without the lineage of sin passed through manhood. He was the spotless, unblemished sacrifice for our sins, both past and yet to come. Every sin you will ever commit, Jesus paid for on the cross.

The same thing that happened to the Israelites will happen to you. When you accept Christ, those who don't regard the things of God as precious will attack you. You will be tempted. You will wish you were back in the safety of Egypt. That is why it is essential to have a covering, like Moses. What is a covering? Your covering is your church, your pastor, and your Christian teachers and leaders. This is very important: plug into your church. Get connected, so that when the attack comes, someone can cover you in prayer and help destroy the schemes of the enemy.

We'll return to this analogy throughout the journey. Just know you are in good company, my brother. Many men have walked through what you're about to study, and you do not have to carry it alone. The important thing now, no matter where you are in your walk, is to *connect* with Christian brothers. The enemy wants to keep us apart because he knows how powerful two men living life together can be — and Ecclesiastes says a strand of three is not easily broken. Millennium Men is a brotherhood. We have each other's backs. We pray for one another. We are motivated by love and unashamed of Truth. Welcome to the brotherhood.

WEEK ONE

Week One summary

God made Adam and told him to be fruitful, to multiply, and to subdue the earth. What God said to Adam, He is saying to you. You are called to be a conqueror.

The first step in conquering is to align ourselves with God's will. To do that, we must accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior. Once we do, we begin to understand that our design and our destiny are eternal. The things that are eternal, and important to God, are other people. God doesn't want anyone to spend eternity away from Him, because He is Love. Therefore our purpose, whatever it is, is tied to our

interaction with other people. Lastly, our design reveals our destiny. How we are made determines our specific purpose. We were created with that purpose in mind.

YOUR ONE THING

Write down **one thing** you could start doing — or stop doing — that would make the most difference in your life over the next 30 days.

WHAT'S MY ONE THING?

NOW TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO ANSWER THESE IN YOUR NOTEBOOK:

What is a man?

What is my purpose?

What am I willing to die for? Perhaps these are the things I should be living for.
