

Thank you for downloading one of the eight, five-session small group studies from *Real Men*.

Real Men is a 40-week, video-driven small group study for men. Each session features a video from best-selling author, Rick Burgess, and a small group leader guide. You can purchase all 40 weeks, or purchase the eight, five-week sessions independently.

If we can help answer any questions about ***Real Men*** or any other of the Iron Hill Men resources, please don't hesitate to email (customercare@ironhillpress.com) or call (800) 307-9366



JOSHUA

A 5-WEEK, VIDEO-DRIVEN DISCIPLESHIP
CURRICULUM FOR MEN

**JOSHUA: A 5-WEEK, VIDEO-DRIVEN DISCIPLESHIP
CURRICULUM FOR MEN**

Leader Guides

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Videos

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JOSHUA

A 5-WEEK, VIDEO-DRIVEN DISCIPLESHIP CURRICULUM FOR MEN

BY RICK BURGESS



PUBLISHED BY IRON HILL MEN IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MAN CHURCH

DISCIPLESHIP CULTURE COURTSHIP TITHING OZ INTERDISCIPLINARY

DISCIPLE MEN, CHANGE EVERYTHING.

There is a discipleship problem affecting Christian men today. Too often, men are absent from both the church pews and from the vital work the church is doing in the world. These men are not engaged spiritually in their homes and aren't making a Kingdom impact in their workplace. And it all points back to one major issue:

Many men aren't being discipled.

But when men ARE being discipled, powerful things happen as a result. They impact the church, their family, and culture. We have seen the influence godly men can have. The purpose of The Pursuit curriculum is to equip and empower men to become the man God has called them to be.

WHAT IS REAL MEN ?

Real Men is a 40-week, video-driven curriculum designed to help men learn from the examples of the real men of the Bible. Real Men takes eight men from Scripture and examines their lives through video and small group Bible Study.

Rick Burgess, best-selling author and co-host of the nationally syndicated radio show The Rick & Bubba Show, starts off each session with a 10-15 minute video introducing the session's focus. Then, for each small group session, there is a leader guide to help facilitate a meaningful time of discussion and Bible study.

The reason men aren't living a more authentic faith is simple: they have yet to embrace the call to real discipleship. By leading a group through Real Men, you're a part of the growing tide of leaders who are looking to awaken men to embrace their calling as Christ-followers.

START GETTING STARTED

What do you know about Joshua? Joshua's amazing life is "hidden in plain sight" from many Christians. Joshua was a remarkable person who often gets overshadowed by Moses in the story of Israel's history. And while Moses is rightfully a more significant character in the overall biblical narrative, Joshua stepped in and completed the task Moses couldn't.

If you've never really studied Joshua's life, you're about to discover that few people in the Bible are as faithful, capable, and courageous as Joshua. Joshua has a TON to teach us about what it means to live and lead as men of God.

WHAT YOU NEED TO GET STARTED

FIRST, preview your video. Every Real Men session starts with a video. You'll need to preview your video ahead of time and be prepared to show it to your group. You can access your videos through your Iron Hill Press account.

THEN, get ready for your small group discussion and Bible study by preparing your lesson. Use this leader guide to help lead a time of discussion based on the video and Bible study based on the passage Rick covered. Pray that God would lead your preparation and your facilitation of the material.

FINALLY, lead your time of small group Bible study using this leader guide. It's that simple.

If you have any questions or feedback, don't hesitate to let us hear from you at feedback@ironhillpress.com.

EDGE ELEMENTS ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



RICK BURGESS is the Co-Host of the nationally syndicated *Rick and Bubba Show*. He has co-authored multiple New York Times Bestselling Books covering topics such as politics, marriage, business, comedy, and what it looks like to be a follower of Christ in secular entertainment. Rick has appeared on the Fox News programs *Hannity's America*, *Your World with Neil Cavuto*, and *Fox and Friends*.

Rick speaks regularly at men's events and marriage conferences across the country, all while teaching youth and men's Bible studies on a weekly basis. Rick is married to the former Sherri Bodine, and they have five children: Brandi, Blake, Brooks, Brody, and Bronner. Rick's wife Sherri is the author of the book "Bronner: A Journey to Understand," a powerful story about what she and Rick learned about God through the earthly death of their youngest son, Bronner. Rick's eulogy for Bronner became the most-viewed video in the world on YouTube the week of the service.

ALSO CONTRIBUTING TO *REAL MEN*: JOSHUA:

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JOSHUA

SESSION I

- **Main Passages:** Exodus 17:8-16, Exodus 24:12-14, Exodus 33:7-11
 - **Purpose:** To demonstrate the importance of every man being a mentor and having a mentor.
 - **Session Snapshot:** Mentorship is a lost practice in our self-centered, time-crunched culture. This session identifies the Biblical mandate for mentorship and shows an actual example of successful mentoring.
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GETTING STARTED

Kick off your time together by introducing a new theme or reviewing what you did in the last session.

FIRST, explain to your group that they will be beginning a video series on Joshua that is part of a larger study on looking at the real men of the Bible. Remind men that the Bible is true and the stories in the Bible are true. The men you are studying are real people who lived real lives. Remind your group that God wants us to learn what it means to be in a relationship with Him from the example of these men.

THEN, if this study on Joshua is your first study in the Real Men line of curriculum, consider introducing yourself, if necessary, and having the men in your group introduce themselves. Then, ask for volunteers to share what they want to get out of their time in this study. If you want to pass around a contact sheet or do any other first-session "housekeeping tasks," this is the time to do it.

If this is not your first study in the Real Men line, consider asking men to recap what they remember from the men they have studied so far. Ask them what has been the biggest takeaway so far, or to share how the studies you've completed have impacted them.

FINALLY, if there are no questions or other input, transition into the *Digging In* section of your leader's guide.

DIGGING IN

Jump into the session by watching this week's video.

FIRST, if this is your first study, explain to the group the basic structure of your time together. Explain that you will watch a video that is usually about 15 minutes long, followed by a short discussion of the video. Then, you'll spend a few minutes in Bible study, followed by a closing activity. Consider encouraging men to take notes as they watch the video.

THEN, play the video. You can access the video by logging into your Iron Hill Press account.

When the video is over, lead men in a short discussion based on what Rick covered. Feel free to come up with your own questions, or consider asking some similar to those below:

- Describe to the group a time when you had a successful mentor. How did that relationship impact your faith as a man?
- What are the qualities of a successful mentoring relationship? What makes a good mentor versus a bad mentor?
- Why is mentorship so difficult in today's culture?
- What are the benefits of being under the mentorship of another person? What are the benefits of being a mentor to someone else?
- What obstacles exist in our lives that prevent us from engaging in mentorship relationships?
- To the fathers and grandfathers in the group, ask the following: If your children or grandchildren were to use your spiritual walk as their example, would they be growing closer to God or moving away from God? If your daughters were to marry men with your spiritual disciplines, would these men be the Godly husbands that they should be to your daughters? If your sons were to follow your spiritual example, would they be the kind of men who exemplify godliness?

FINALLY, transition into the *Opening the Word* portion of your time together by saying something like the following:

- **The practice of mentorship is seen throughout the Word of God. The Holy Spirit uses men to pour into and shape other men. Let's investigate and identify important components of Biblical mentorship.**

OPENING THE WORD

Spend time going deeper into a specific concept Rick introduced in the video.

FIRST, explain that you will take a more in-depth look at what it means to be in a God-centered mentorship relationship.

We must make sure your group has a good understanding of the context of the passage you'll be studying. Provide the context for the passage using the following bullet points:

- **Author:** While there's no specific author named within the text, Moses is the accepted author for Exodus, with some editing and additions done after his death (such as the account of his death).
- **Time frame:** The dating of the Book of Exodus is a point of debate. The issue is that no one knows for sure when the Exodus occurred, whether it was in the mid-1400s BC or a later date around the mid-1200s BC. The writing would have occurred around those general dates.
- **Purpose:** Exodus means "a going out" or a "departure." Exodus was written to record God's great rescue of His people from slavery in Egypt and His commands to His people guiding them to live for His purposes in a new land.

THEN, explain to the group that we are looking at the relationship between Moses and Joshua as a Biblical example of mentorship. Let's look at the first interaction the Bible tells us between Moses and Joshua. Remind the group that we are looking at a time in Israel's history immediately after their deliverance from slavery in Egypt. They are making their way toward the Promised Land and have come to the first battle against another tribal nation. Ask a member of the group to read Exodus 17:8-16. Ask something like:

- **What did Moses ask Joshua to do in verse 9?**

- *Answer:* Moses asked Joshua to select a group of men from the people who would fight Amalek.
- **This was the first battle the Hebrews would fight in their trek to the Promised Land. What is the significance of Moses choosing Joshua for this task?**
 - *Answer:* Moses' request to Joshua established Joshua as a military leader. This would have been an important task and one that carried a significant burden. Moses trusts Joshua with this meaningful mission.
- **What was the result of the battle?**
 - *Answer:* The Israelites won this battle (vs. 13).
- **Why did God want Moses to recite the details of the victory in front of Joshua in verse 14, and what does this tell us about mentorship?**
 - *Answer:* Moses writes of the details of the victory and the promise of generational Amalekite annihilation and recites these details in front of Joshua to memorialize the faithful victory God gave the Israelite people. Perhaps the Scripture account emphasizes that God had these details read in front of Joshua to show the young mentee specifically of His faithfulness. God used Moses to teach Joshua the foundations of a message Joshua would hear throughout his life: be strong and courageous for the Lord is with you. God uses men who are willing to empty themselves and be filled with the Holy Spirit to teach other men of His attributes and faithfulness.

NEXT, explain to the group that we will now look when God called Moses to Mount Sinai as we continue our examination of the mentor relationship of Moses and Joshua. Read or ask a group member to volunteer to read Exodus 24:12-14. Ask something like this:

- **What is God calling Moses to receive on Mount Sinai?**
 - *Answer:* God is calling Moses to receive the Law, which includes the 10 Commandments. God is personally writing the Law and Commandments on tablets of stone to give to Moses.
- **Did God tell Moses to bring Joshua with him?**
 - *Answer:* No, the passage tells us that God only directs Moses to come.
- **Then why did Moses bring Joshua along, and what does this tell us about mentorship?**
 - *Answer:* Scripture does not completely spell out Joshua's role in this passage. Perhaps he was just a porter to carry supplies for Moses. However, there is strong reason to believe that Joshua was serving more than the role of a Sherpa. Moses trusted Joshua as a military leader against the Amalekites, but now, Moses is teaching Joshua how to be a spiritual leader. Joshua will be an eyewitness to everything that Moses encounters in receiving the Law. He will be the first to hear from Moses what God said and will be the first Israelite to see the tablets of stone carved by God with the Law. Mentors do not merely focus on one aspect of a man's life; they help guide and teach a mentee how God wants to direct all aspects of a man's life. Then, they model to a mentee the life fully surrendered to God.

THEN, we will look at another instance when God met with Moses. Ask a volunteer to read the passage Rick mentioned in the video in Exodus 33:7-11. Ask:

- **According to these verses, what was the purpose of the tent of meeting?**
 - *Answer:* While there is some disagreement among scholars on this, the tent of meeting was likely a precursor to the Tabernacle (though some people believe the tent of meeting and the Tabernacle are two phrases for the same thing). Moses would go into the tent to meet with God face to face, much like what we saw in the passage in Exodus 24 when God met with Moses on the top of Mount Sinai.
- **What does this passage say about Joshua's activity in verse 11?**
 - *Answer:* These verses tell us that Moses would return to the camp but that Joshua would remain in the tent.

- **What do you think Joshua was doing in the tent based on our understanding of the tent of meeting?**
 - *Answer:* Most likely, Joshua would be worshipping God in the tent just after God descended on the tent as the pillar of cloud to meet with Moses.
- **Where did Joshua learn to have a desire to meet and worship God? What does this tell us about mentorship?**
 - *Answer:* Moses most certainly modeled and instructed Joshua on how to hear from God and how to worship Him. Meeting with God face to face was reserved only for Moses in the tent, but Moses could have taught Joshua how to pursue God and worship God truthfully. These lessons would serve Joshua exceedingly well throughout his life. Mentors should actively help mentees draw closer to God and teach them to hear God's voice. A mentor should engage mentees on how to live a life of worship to God.

FINALLY, explain that there are mentor relationships mentioned throughout Scripture such as the one we just examined with Moses and Joshua: Moses' father-in-law Jethro served as a source of wisdom and mentorship to Moses; Joshua mentored the elders of Israel; Elijah was a mentor to the prophet Elisha; in the New Testament, Paul mentored several people including Timothy; Jesus was a mentor the twelve disciples.

Close by saying something like:

- **King Solomon writes much about friendship and mentorship. Proverbs 27:5 tells us that a true friend is not afraid to identify faults in another friend. This is not to be done in a judgmental fashion (see Matthew 7:3-4) but in a restorative manner. Mentors and mentees should have the transparency to rebuke within the context of a solid friendship that can support such conversations. Proverbs 27:17 says mentors and mentees should walk the circumstances of life together in such a way that draws both of them closer to God. As both pursue God individually, they should corporately and collectively seek to hear from God and worship Him. This type of deep friendship jointly seeking God results in both being shaped by God.**

Ask if there are any questions. If there are none, transition into *Accepting the Challenge*.

ACCEPTING THE CHALLENGE

Focus your group's attention on the takeaways from your time together.

FIRST, explain that you want to challenge the group to focus on the takeaways from this session. Consider starting this portion of your session by asking your group what they think are the main application points from your session. Allow discussion to go until there are no more suggestions.

Then, if necessary, supplement your discussion with the following application points. Say something like:

- **Who should I ask to meet with me regularly to serve as my mentor?**
 - Challenge men to prayerfully consider men they can regularly learn from, both in matters of life and faith.
- **Who should I be meeting with regularly to pour into as a mentee?**
 - It's important for men who have a level of spiritual maturity to be pouring into younger men. Men need to ask themselves what steps they need to take in their lives to tell others around them (like their children or co-workers) to follow them as they follow Christ (1 Corinthians 11:1).
- **Do I have a friend or group of friends that I know well enough and meet with regularly to identify areas in my life that need rebuking?**

- Part of living a life of real impact is allowing others to sharpen us. We have to have people speaking into our lives. Part of growing in our faith is creating space for others to challenge us toward spiritual maturity.

Allow the group to consider where they find themselves in these three questions. If it feels appropriate, allow some discussion about the kind of processing they find themselves doing.

FINALLY, encourage men to continue to marinate on these questions in the week to come. Challenge them to listen to what God is trying to tell them and to respond accordingly. If there are no more questions or input, close your time together in prayer.