

Built to Stand Series:

The world doesn't need perfect men. It needs godly men who refuse to drift.

In a culture offering countless—and often conflicting—ideas about manhood, Scripture calls men to something better: courage over passivity, responsibility over apathy, humility over pride, sacrifice over selfishness, and character over compromise.

Throughout this four-week series, we'll look at what it means to stand firm in our faith, win the battles within, take responsibility, and build a legacy that points others to Jesus. Because when men live like Jesus, families grow stronger, churches become healthier, and future generations are changed.

This Week's Sermon Topic:

"Leave Something Behind"

(Personal Fun Facts)

Who is someone from your past who still influences the way you live today? What did they pass along to you that lasted?

(Takeaways)

What was a major takeaway moment during the sermon this week?

(Discussion)**Scripture: 1 Corinthians 3:10–15**

Paul describes your life in this text as construction. We are all building something. Some things will survive us. Other things will not. That thought alone is rather humbling. We can spend a good portion of our time building things that will not ultimately matter very much. There is a difference between success and significance. We can be very successful in this life but have very little eternal significance. But wonder if you could live your life and your significance outlasts you?

- 1) Why do we so easily confuse success with significance?

- 2) What could you spend your entire life building only to discover that it didn't matter nearly as much as you thought it did?

Scripture: 1 Kings 19:19–21; 2 Kings 2:6-14

If anyone could have measured his life by accomplishments, it would have been Elijah. His confrontation with King Ahab, his announcing of a drought, being fed by ravens, raising the widow's son, and calling fire down from heaven on Mount Carmel, Elijah did some great things. But there was a time in his life when his ministry was no longer going to be about what *he* could do. God was preparing someone who could carry the mission forward after Elijah was gone. That changed the definition of success for Elijah. Rather than thinking to himself, "What can I accomplish?" he began asking, "Who am I preparing?"

- 3) Who allowed you to get close enough to their life that you learned by watching them? What exactly did you pick up from them?
- 4) What is the mantle God has given you that needs to be passed to someone else?
- 5) Who is your Elisha? Who are you intentionally investing in right now?

Scripture: Psalm 78:4–7

The biblical vision of faith is always generational. Someone told us. We tell someone else. The fact that you know the gospel today is because each generation from Christ has taken on personally and fulfilled the Great Commission. Who will know the faith because of you? What if someone fifty ... or a hundred years from now follows Jesus because of something God began through you? You may never know their name ... but God will.

- 6) Why do you think Scripture places such an emphasis on one generation telling the next generation about God? What happens to churches, families, and communities when one generation fails to pass on the faith it has received?
- 7) What do you most want the next generation to know about God because they knew you?

Closing Moments & Personal Application

- If you had ten years left in your life, would you spend those years differently than you are spending them right now?
 - What would become less important?
 - What would become more important?
 - Who would you spend more time with?
 - What would you make certain you passed along?
- What could I intentionally give to the next generation that might still be shaping their life ten years from now?

There will be a day when someone else will take our place. Our possessions will belong to someone else. Our accomplishments will become memories. Things we built may eventually disappear. But people are different. Because when you invest your life in another person, that which God has done in you can continue through them. Someone may become a better husband and father because you invested in him. Someone may become a stronger wife and mother because you encouraged her. Someone might be in the ministry because you invested in him or her. Someone may become a follower of Jesus because you walked beside them and shared the life of Jesus with them.

Who will carry something of Christ forward because you were a part of their life?

Closing Prayer

Father, thank You for every person You have used to shape our lives. Thank You for those who taught us, encouraged us, believed in us, corrected us, prayed for us, and showed us what it looks like to follow Jesus.

Help us remember that our lives are not merely about what we can accumulate or accomplish. Teach us to build what lasts. Open our eyes to the people You have already placed around us. Give us the courage to share not only what we know, but our lives as well.

And when our time is finished, may there be people who love You more deeply, follow You more faithfully, and invest in others more intentionally because our lives crossed theirs.

Help us bear **fruit that lasts.**

In Jesus' name,

Amen.