



The Mindful Man
Dr. George Grant

Franklin, TN

EXPLORING GOD'S DESIGN FOR MEN CONFERENCE

Session 1

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. In light of the story of Hernando Colon, discuss these two observations: "Telling a story is like reaching into a granary full of wheat and drawing out a handful. There is always more to tell than can be told." Wendell Berry
2. "We must always keep in mind the fact that history is not what has happened; it is what we remember of what has happened." Herbert Schlossberg
3. Keeping in mind the challenge to engage in lifetime learning, discuss this observation: "The great intellectual tradition that comes down to us from the past was never interrupted or lost through such trifles as the sack of Rome, the triumph of Attila, or all the barbarian invasions of the Dark Ages. It was lost after the introduction of printing, the discovery of America, the coming of the marvels of technology, the establishment of universal education, and all the enlightenment of the modern world. It was there, if anywhere, that there was lost or impatiently snapped the long thin delicate thread that had descended from distant antiquity; the thread of that unusual human hobby: the habit of thinking." G.K. Chesterton
4. According to leadership expert John C. Maxwell, the two most difficult things to get people to do are "to think and to do things in their order of importance." Discuss why this always seems to be the case for us.
5. Compare, contrast, and harmonize these two passages of Scripture: "Knowledge puffeth up" 1 Corinthians 8:1 and "Gird your minds for action" 1 Peter 1:13.

Culture = worldview
Love what we love in front of who we love
(2 Kingdoms Christian War)
Secular word
Defines sacred culture



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The Measured Man: Gentleness
Galatians 5:22-23
Dr. Sean Lucas

Session 2

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. **The witness of Scripture is that gentleness is not weakness but the very heart of Jesus.** What examples from Jesus' life or from your own experience have changed the way you think about what true gentleness looks like?
2. **With which of the two biblical characters that Dr. Lucas mentioned do you identify more right now—the rich young ruler or the woman at the well?** How does Jesus' gentle response to each encourage you in your own relationship with Him?
3. **Gentleness is often most difficult when we disagree with someone or feel attacked.** Think about a recent conflict or difficult conversation. How might gentleness have changed the outcome without compromising the truth?
4. **Paul describes gentleness as fruit of the Spirit, not simply a personality trait.** What practical habits or spiritual practices help us become more like Jesus in this area rather than just trying harder to be nice?
5. **Do people know you because of your kindness, goodness, and gentleness?** If your family, coworkers, neighbors, or church members described you today, what evidence of Christlike gentleness would they point to? Where is there room for growth?

Provide
& Protect



The Modeling Man
Dr. Brian Cosby

Do Something!

206 1:30
205 1:30
D3C
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Tolson
Peterson

207:2:30
WSDon
AI
Session 3

205 2:30
HARD CONVEN

206 2:30

REFLECTION/QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Unwritten goals are just ideas. If you want either short-term or long-term change in your life, it's important to set your plans and actions down in written form. Take out a piece of paper, journal, or computer and write down your answers to the following questions.

1. What are three big-picture take-aways—outlined in the summary above—that I need to implement?
2. What are some areas that need improvement in my life?
3. Am I happy with my current vocation? If not, should I consider either learning contentment or seeking new employment?
4. Have my spending habits gotten the better of me? Do I need to refocus my efforts on getting out of debt and becoming financially free?
5. Have I let my physical health slip? What are some realistic ways to implement better food choices and physical exercise?
6. Do I need real accountability in my life? If so, who are two or three men who might provide this for me (men who both know me and love me)?
7. What do I see as the biggest threat to men taking up the mantle of masculine responsibility today?
8. What (or who) is robbing me or keeping me from reaching my goals?
9. What is my biggest waste of time?
10. If "idle time leads to idol time" (Robert Hertha), what are some projects or worthy goals that can correct any laziness or time wasted in my life?
11. Am I faithfully investing my life, my love, and my faith into my children? If not, what are some practical ways I can improve?
12. What is a skill or knowledge that I need or want to learn?
13. Do I have practical ways to defend myself and others if there were a threat?
14. Does my presence convey security and trust among others? Am I an effective and competent sheepdog when I'm out in public?
15. What are the various scenarios in your home, your church, and your community that could pose a potential danger?





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16. Do I have both national and local situational awareness of current events that could threaten my family?
17. Do I have the necessary supplies and knowledge to provide for and protect my family for at least three months if we did not have access to modern conveniences, grocery stores, or electricity? If not, what items do I need to consider purchasing?
18. How can I be more self-sufficient and teach my children to be more self-sufficient?
19. Do I have close friends who both know me and love me? If not, who are potential friends in your life with whom you could invest yourself?
20. Am I actively engaged in my church community?
21. Am I desiring the benefits of community—love, support, accountability, prayer, encouragement, physical help, etc.—without investing in it to begin with?
22. Am I utilizing the gifts God has given me for the building up of the body of Christ in a local church?
23. Am I personally growing in greater knowledge and love of Christ through God's Word, prayer, and the Lord's Supper?
24. What kind of legacy am I building? Do I often consider the long-term effects of my present words, actions, and daily habits?
25. If I were to die tomorrow, what is one thing I wish I had done or done better in my life?



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**The Motivated Man – Being Present by Sitting, Standing, and Running
(or Sprinting if you want alliteration) – Motivating Ourselves and Those Around Us**
Will Huss

Session 4

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Section 1, Chief End, Identity, and Excellence (intro):

1. How does the chief end of man play into your motivation, personally, and in motivating others? Glorifying God? Enjoying Him?
2. What does it mean to you to pursue excellence?

Section 2, SIT:

1. When has someone tried to “fix” or motivate you before they’d actually sat with you in the well? What was that experience like?
2. What is your go-to when someone is in the well? Your “at least?” Why do you reach for that? How good are you at “shoulding?”
3. Can you think of an area in your life that you are trying to pick yourself up by your bootstraps rather than recognizing that God is sitting with you?
4. What is significant, in your understanding, that Jesus took days to get to Lazarus, but cried three times, knowing that He would raise Lazarus? What does this tell you about Jesus?

Section 3, STAND:

1. Who has been your Aaron or Hur (held you up when you didn’t have the strength)? Have you ever asked anyone to hold you up? What was that like?
2. Think of the rhythms of your life and the motivation that goes with them (church, family, work, walk with Christ). Is that built to stand or do you have to function with your hair on fire?
3. How do you keep dependence on God (vertical) from becoming passive, or standing for others (horizontal) from becoming self-reliant?

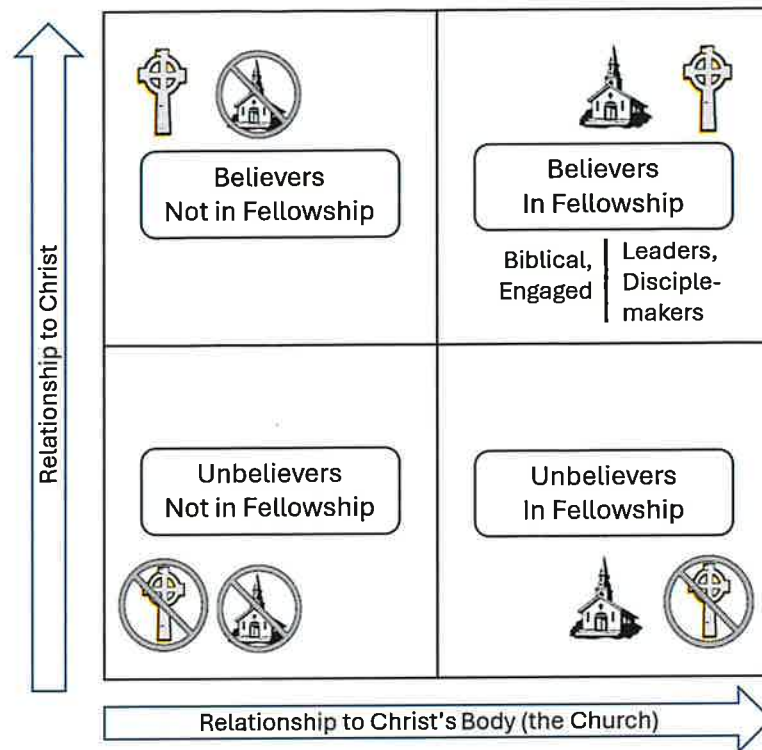
Section 4, RUN:

1. Is your motivation right now to pursue excellence and God’s glory based more on fear of your performance, or on responding to the fact that you have already been run to by our Father?
2. Hebrews 12 talks about OUR race. Where are you tempted to run someone else’s race in addition to your own, or instead of your own?
3. How can you practically and specifically help someone in their faith-work integration and their pursuit of God’s glory? Who is that?
4. What does “who before do” mean to you?

Final

- What does being present look like in your life?

Who ya' got grid



The Different Types of Men in Your Church

Discovering Where Your Men Are

Addressing the Needs of the Different Groups

Exercise

