

Men's Retreat

First Pres Morganton

September 25, 26

seeking the king

men's retreat
agenda

Friday:

6:00 pm Arrive
Get into small groups
7:00 Dinner
Introduce Christopher
8:00 Bonfire
Worship Songs
Free time/Bed

Saturday:

8:30am Breakfast
9:30 - 10:15 Under Fire (1)
10:15 - 10:45 Breakout Session
10:45 - 11:30 Under Fire (2)
11:30 - 12:00 Breakout Session
12:30 - 3:00 Lunch/Free Time
3:00 - 3:45 Seeking (1)
3:45 - 4:15 Breakout Session
4:15 - 5:00 Seeking (2)
5:00 - 5:30 Breakout Session
6:00 - 7:00 Dinner / Worship

Assembly 1a - Under Fire

*Even when we are under fire there is a way to move through the attack
and into blessing and anointing...*

ATTACK 

Men are under spiritual attack:

At home

At work

At play

Philippians 3:8 “... I consider everything as loss...”

Attacks cripple us because we find our value
in their outcome
Where does your value lie?
How do you know your worth?

We cannot live a life that is devoid of attacks:

Paul tells Timothy that even though he leads a good life
with good intent he (Paul) has still dealt with suffering. If
we cannot live a life without attack then we must find a
way to deal with it (2 Tim 3:10-12)

Digression: The Language of Love
Words of Affirmation
Compliments

Quality Time
Undivided attention

Gifts
Doesn't have to be a lot

Acts of Service
Time, creativity, chores.

Physical Touch

This is usually how we find value. Through the knowledge
that people love/care for us.
Though helpful in daily life, our value cannot come from
this, but only from God

Philippians 3:8 “... I consider everything as loss...”

How do you react to the attack?

With anger?

With self destruction?

By stuffing your feelings?

By taking it out on others?

What is your Hate Reaction?

Words of Destruction

do you use “unfair” words in fights with spouse or friends?

Hiding Away

seeking out the “man cave” unfairly or for unreasonable amounts of time

Being Overly Materialistic

“can’t buy my love” need not apply

Demanding Acts

depending too much on others, or having demands that must be met to meet our needs

Abuse

*Our reaction affects
all other aspects of our lives.*

God is able to take the **TRIAL** and change it into a **TRAINING**

Job

- Was tested, destroyed, and nearly undone
- Had a support group that didn't support



Many trials have the “Jesus Pattern”

Friday

Trial

Saturday

Nothing/Silence

Sunday

Resurrection/Victory

Just like Job we need faithfulness
at the heart of our struggle

Why wait 10 years to see what some people means for evil
God uses for Good?

Our Reaction to the attack, to the offense,
defines who we are and how
we will accept the kingdom.
God isn't looking for the offenders,
he's looking for us.

CRY OUT

Are men comfortable with Crying out?

What is the consequence as a man when we cry out?

How is this in some ways the “Lost Generation”?

Don't fall into the “toughen up” mythology

ROMANS 14:13-17 “WE MUST STOP JUDGING OTHERS...”

There is a great difference between accountability and persecution and judgment

- God alone has the power to judge
 - Paul asks in Romans that our actions be guided by love
 - Even what God has ordered us to do is suspect (in context)
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-

Crying out allows us to be accountable.

We are instructed to cry out, and we are instructed on how to react to the one who is crying out.

Crying out is an integral part of this process.

QUESTIONS

Personal

What are some ways you are being attacked right now in life?

How do you deal with attack what is your Hate Reaction? Is that healthy for you, or others?

Is it ok to cry out? How do you make time/availability to cry out?

Which of the love languages speaks to you?

Breakout Group

How could your family, your small group, or your church aide you in dealing with attack?

PRAY TOGETHER

(suggestion) Heavenly Father, allow us to realize that we can cry out to you. That the strongest biblical fathers have done it, that men of faith rely on you as their only strength. Remind us we don't have to do anything alone. Temper our reaction so that they don't hurt people we love, or hurt ourselves who were created to resemble you. Help us become cornerstones in our church for your will there. Remind us daily where our worth comes from. In Christ name, Amen.

FORGIVENESS

*Forgiveness is two part.
God's Forgiveness and
Your Forgiveness*

*Forgiveness sometimes is a matter of truly
understanding that it was not your fault*

PSALM 18:16-19 "HE RESCUED ME FROM
MY POWERFUL ENEMY. FROM MY FOES,
WHO WERE TOO STRONG FOR ME."

*You need to believe
that the kingdom is coming.*

*Forgiveness is the open doorway
to what is coming;
too often we get trapped
in space after we are forgiven*

Anointing Means...

To chose, to consecrate/make sacred, to designate

God’s reaction to all of this,
the response, is an anointing

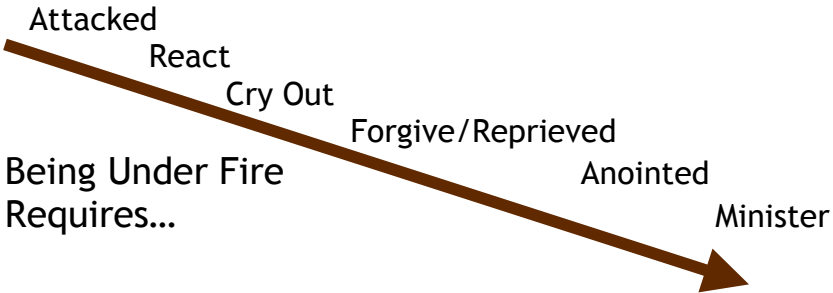
- *When the people cried out for deliverance God heard them. They were living well in Egypt, then they were persecuted, then they were freed.*
- *When the people cried out for a leader, God brought Saul and then David who was called a man after God’s own heart.*
- *And when the nations were crying out for a savior God brought Christ.*



WE ARE UNDER THE FIRE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



John 15:3 “You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.”



QUESTIONS

Personal

Where are you in the timeline of attack? Attacked? Reacting? Crying Out? Forgiveness? Anointed? Are there several in your life?

What need for forgiveness still lingers in your heart? Toward others? Toward yourself?

Breakout Group

What is there in your life that would keep you from moving through the steps to anointing?

What is something that you are willing to do in order to begin the track of forgiveness and anointing by the Holy Spirit? How could you achieve this?

PRAY TOGETHER

(suggestion) Father God, we have a desire to become anointed. To find the special purposes that you have for us. Hear the cry that we have, help us claim your grace and forgiveness and see the anointing you have for us. Knit us together so that we can be a foundation for one another and our church.

RESOURCES

Gary Chapman

Larry Titus

T.D. Jakes

Phillip Yancey

WWW.FIVELOVELANGUAGES.COM

“Fathers” www.kingdomglobal.com

“Hemotions”

“Disappointment with God”

Following the path to anointing only makes it possible for us to receive. Unlocking the anointing is giving power to the call.

RELEASING THE ANOINTING:

Requires Sacrifice

- My son, My only son...
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- Being the sacrificial head
-

Eph 5:23 “The husband is the head of the wife, as Christ is the head of the church.” Husband wife is a living picture of the relationship between Christ and the church

[wife] **Helper**, which is worthy - Gen 2:18 “...I will make a helper suitable for him.” , Psalm 54:4 “God is my helper, the Lord is the sustainer of my soul.”

Not Bargaining

Requires Your True Name

Taking what isn't our, out of fear
Jacob...

Our real heritage comes when we...

Requires Courage

HEBREWS 11:13-16

“... THEY STILL HAD FAITH, EVEN THOUGH THEY HAD NOT RECEIVED WHAT THEY HAD BEEN PROMISED. THEY WERE GLAD TO SEE THESE THINGS FROM FAR OFF. THEY AGREED THAT THEY WERE ONLY STRANGERS AND FOREIGNERS ON THIS EARTH. WHEN PEOPLE TALK THIS WAY IT IS CLEAR THAT THEY ARE LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO CALL THEIR OWN. IF THEY HAD BEEN TALKING ABOUT THE LAND WHERE THEY HAD ONCE LIVED, THEY COULD HAVE GONE BACK AT ANY TIME. BUT THEY WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO A BETTER HOME IN HEAVEN... THIS IS WHY GOD BUILT A CITY FOR THEM”



QUESTIONS

Personal

What is your one thing that God could claim as his own? Are you ready to give that up as part of your worship to God? Are your actions in “sacrifice” or worship obedient, or are they based on bargaining?

Breakout Group

Do we sometimes muddy the waters surrounding a person’s “true” name? Through ridicule or judgment? What is the church’s purpose in helping us place our “one thing” on the altar in worship?

PRAY TOGETHER

(suggestion) God, you ask that we have only you in the center of our hearts, and you warn us that you are a jealous God. Teach us to claim you there, even though the lesson might be hard, we trust you enough to ask it even still. Remind us of the name you gave us, and strengthen us to adhere to its meaning. Amen.

We have gone from being *under fire* in attacks,
to being *Under the Fire* of the Holy Spirit
Let's go from King Seeking the King,
to Seeing the that lies within us...

Men have a particular spiritual focus in God's kingdom.
They are the head. They are Kings of what God,
the King of Kings has put before us.

Martin Luther called Christians "little Christs"

Our anointing is what comes before our ministry,
our rule, our action as king.



If we work through our attacks, or hear a call it's like God
gave us the keys to the family car.
The anointing is the gas that goes in it.



Are you on the road out of gas?



The Queen of Sheba...

1 Kings 10:9 "Praise be to your God who has delighted in you
and placed you on the throne of Israel. Because of the Lord's
eternal love for Israel he has made you king to rule with
justice and righteousness."

SEE KING 

Biblical Kings were stewards with whom God entrusted his kingdom.

Steward of Gondor...



We are **responsible** for the corruption or decline of our churches and families.

Our failure can come because we are accepting the kingship and the power without accepting the stewardship.

Saruman and Gandalf...

Mo's Temper
Dave's Desires

The Good King does what?

Love Like a Savior - An act of will, Sacrificial, given in obedience to Christ not in response to performance, Love's goal is the building up and enrichment of a wife.

Col 3:19 "Husbands love your wives and do not be embittered against them."

The Life Cycle:

Kingship

Failure

Crisis

Forgiveness

Anointing

Kingship

Failure

Crisis...

QUESTIONS

Personal

What is your calling(s) at this moment? Is your anointing in this area blocked?

Have you outlasted your anointing in some way?

What aspects of the kingship have you accepted? Which are you better at?

Which might need work?

Breakout Group

Discuss some of these questions with your group. Try to be as honest or as brutal as you are comfortable being and trust that the group will surround you with a king's respect.

Discuss some ways that this breakout group could continue to hold one another up in glory, and in accountability as we return to our weekly lives at the church.

PRAY TOGETHER

(suggestion) Holy Father, You give us a call. Sometimes several! Sometimes you change our call. We can praise you for giving our lives your purpose, and for teaching us to desire that. You see in each of us a King, a ruler of a small peace of the Emperor's earthly kingdom. Give us your spirit so that we can govern as good stewards. With love, with sacrifice and with caring. Help us create Your will here on this earth. Amen

RESOURCES

Gregg Johnson	J12 Ministries, "The Lord Tests Hearts"
Rob Bell	"God Wants to Save Christians"
Charles Stanley	"In Touch" Radio podcast,
Family Life,	"Weekend to Remember" Conference