

The Warrior's Character

Discussion Guide



Kingdom Warrior Ministries

Equipping Men for Worship, Work, and War

From the author

The Lord is a warrior (Exodus 15:3) who is fully equipped and trained to do expert warfare against His enemies in heaven and on earth. Consequently, His men are expected to be warriors equipped for similar warfare (Ephesians 6:11). If you are a Christian, you know there is a raging war for the souls of men and the welfare of their families.

Kingdom Warrior's primary purpose is to equip churches in ministry to men. We accomplish this mission by providing the local church with men's ministry conferences, workshops, seminars, coaching, training services and ministry tools. After each ministry event, Kingdom Warrior supplies resources, consulting, coaching, and training to help churches implement an ongoing disciple making ministry to and through men.

Making disciples incorporates visioning, harvesting, and building in men after conversion. This is not an easy task. Fortunately, Christ provided an example for the church by training His men. At the end of His earthly ministry, He commanded them to go make disciples (Matthew 28:18-20). The need was great then; the need is great today.

There are three sections in this series: The Warrior's Way, The Warrior's Character, and The Warrior's Mission. Properly taught they develop spiritual growth, godly character, and ministry skills.

The Warrior's Way provides an overview of the basics in the Christian life. It is designed for men to learn how to live as true believers who face life as good soldiers of Christ Jesus.

The Warriors Character focuses on the qualities of a man's walk with God. This section provides an examination of character issues like bearing spiritual fruit, pursuing holiness, and practicing godliness.

The Warrior's Mission gives an overview of how the early church grew through evangelism and witnessing. It challenges men to find their ministry calling and continue in ministry throughout their life.

Developing depth in spiritual growth, godly character, and ministry service are the foundation issues of discipleship. Mature disciples work the ministry to fulfill the Great Commission: "To make disciples of all nations" (Matthew

28:19). This series is designed to equip men with the know-how required to obey Christ's command given to all disciples as well as equip them as soldiers of the cross.

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The Warrior's Character

Men can learn to perform the actions of a Christian disciple and still not have a vibrant living relationship with God. One reason for this has to do with men being more at ease with structure and performance than expressing emotions and building relationships. Many men get their self worth from how well they complete tasks and are especially comfortable following procedures. God wants a man to be secure based on a right relationship with Him. Having a right relationship with God is important for living a godly life.

In order for men to have a right relationship with God, they need to learn how to put off the old self and put on the new. Essentially, this means to have a nature, personality and moral fiber that reflects a right relationship with God. Men who have a growing relationship with God live a biblical-based life in public and private. This section is designed to help men with their character by getting rid of the old self and putting on the new man created to be like Christ. It consists of twelve modules:

1. Live by the Spirit - Galatians 5:1-26
2. Pursue Holiness - 1 Peter 1:13-2:3
3. Practice Godliness - Ephesians 5:1-21
4. Imitate Christ's Humility - Philippians 2:1-18
5. Acclaim Christ's Supremacy - Colossians 1:15-29
6. Be a Godly Man - 2 Timothy 2:14-3:9
7. Do The Right Thing - Titus 3:1-15
8. Demonstrate Genuine Love - 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13
9. Develop Proper Relationships – Ephesians 5:21-6:9
10. Fix Your Eyes on Jesus – Hebrews 12:1-29
11. Reside in God's Will - Romans 12:1-21
12. Watch Your Tongue – James 3:1-18

Men need to develop godly character. The world, the flesh, and the devil fight this with everything they can muster. Maintaining a godly character is a lifetime process. The more men grow in their understanding of who God is and how He operates, the more they will trust and obey what He says. Men who have a growing relationship with God develop a godly character that makes a difference in an ungodly world.

1. Live By the Spirit

Title of Lesson: Live By The Spirit – Galatians 5:1-16
Objective: - Attendee will identify two areas for improvement in bearing Spiritual fruit.
Open with Prayer
Introduction: Only God's Spirit can produce lasting fruit. All men should know spiritual fruit of the Spirit is behavior manifested from God's presence and convictions. Works are an effort done to accomplish something. The sinful nature produces death, but the Holy Spirit produces living, lasting fruit.
Part I – 5:1-6 – What did you learn about freedom in Christ? – Why is circumcision such a problem for the Church? – How does circumcision relate to righteousness? – How can you grow in faith?
Part II – 5:7-15 – What are some of the problems with the believers in this church? – What does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself? – How does yeast relate to the issue of circumcision? – How can you benefit from knowing freedom in Christ?
Part III – 5:16-20 – What is the fruit of the Spirit? – Why is it important to bear spiritual fruit? – How do the acts of sinful nature relate to spiritual fruit? – What are you going to do as a result form this study?
Review memory verse: Galatians 5:22-23
Conclusion: Two alternatives face every Christian man. You can follow God's Spirit, or you can follow the sinful nature. Only through the Holy Spirit is it possible for a man to overcome the sinful nature and serve God by bearing spiritual fruit. The flesh produces dead works; the Holy Spirit produces living fruit.
Close with prayer

Create your own notes:

2. Pursue Holiness

Title of Lesson: Pursue Holiness – 1 Peter 1:13-2:3
Objective: - Attendee learns principles for removing sinful habits and patterns.
Open with prayer
Introduction: God begins a sanctifying work in men through the power and presence of His Holy Spirit. God continues sanctification by revealing to men their sinful behavior. Sanctification is the process of being made holy resulting in a changed life-style for the believer. Pursuing holiness is a removal of the principles, habits and dispositions that reflect the depraved nature.
Part I – 1:13-21 – What did you observe in this first section of the text? – Can a man be holy, like God is holy? Yes/No. Why?/Why not? – How does being a stranger on earth, relate to the concept of being holy? – What are some ways a godly man can prepare his mind for action and live a self-controlled life?
Part II – 1:23-25 – What are some specific things Peter wants the readers to know regarding God’s word? – What does it mean to be born again? – How does being purified from the word relate to loving others more deeply (vs 22)? – How does a man obey God’s word?
Part III – 2:1-3 – What does this section teach you in regard to growing in maturity? – What is spiritual milk (vs 2)? – How does being an infant relate to being a young Christian? – What are you going to do to develop a more holy lifestyle?
Review memory verse: 1 Peter 1:16
Conclusion: Like garments, sin must be taken off and new godly garments put on. Taking off sinful garments is a way to pursue holiness. Putting on godly garments is a way to practice of godliness.
Close with prayer

Create your own notes:

3. Practice Godliness

Title of Lesson: Practice Godliness – Ephesians 5:1-21
Objective: - Attendee learns principles for developing attributes of godliness in his behavior
Open with prayer
Introduction: Practicing Godliness is a discipline that focuses upon devotion to God and is central to living an obedient life. It supposes knowledge, veneration, affection, dependence, submission, gratitude, and obedience to God.
Part I – 5:1-7 – What did you learn about imitating God? – What is the meaning of course joking (vs 4)? – How does vs 5 relate to Acts 20:32? – What are some ways godly men can guard against being deceived (vs 6)?
Part II – 5:8-21 – What are some insights from this section on light and darkness? – What does it mean to expose fruitless deeds of darkness (vs 11)? – How does living wisely relate to living in God’s light? – What specific actions can you take to practice godliness?
Review memory verse: Ephesians 5:8-10
Conclusion: Our world increasingly hates God. Therefore, men need to work at increasing their practice of godliness. Practicing godliness is a daily putting on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. It is properly imitating God.
Close with prayer

Create your own notes:

4. Imitate Christ's Humility

Title of Lesson: Imitate Christ's Humility – Philippians 2:1-30
Objective: - Attendee will identify an area in his life to apply humility
Open with prayer
Introduction: Jesus is the supreme example of humility. He is divine by nature but did not selfishly demand His divine rights. Instead, He gave up the glory of heaven to become a human. He did not seek royal treatment but took on a servant's role. "For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45). He obeyed the Father's plan and died for sin. It is the ultimate act of humility.
Part I – 2:1-11 – What did you learn about imitating Christ's humility? – What does it mean to have the same attitude as Christ (vs 5)? – How does a person's attitude correlate to his behavior? – What specific things are you going to do to imitate Christ's humility?
Part II – 2:12-18 – What does this section teach about Christ working in a man's life? – Why is it important to live life without grumbling or complaining? – How does Philippians 2:13 relate to Romans 8:28? – What can godly men do to work out their salvation?
Part III – 2:19-30 – Describe the kind of men on Paul's ministry team? – Why do people tend to look out for their own interests (vs 21)? – How do worker, soldier and messenger relate to each other (vs 25)? – How can you become a humble man who looks out for the welfare of others before he looks out for his own?
Review memory verse: Philippians 2:3-4
Conclusion: All godly men strive to become more like Jesus by having the same servant attitude as Christ. They look for ways to demonstrate this by putting other people's welfare and interests ahead of their own.
Close with prayer

Create your own notes:

5. Acclaim Christ's Supremacy

Title of Lesson: Acclaim Christ's Supremacy – Colossians 1:15-29
Objective: - Attendee will declare Christ is Lord of his life and Lord of the universe.
Open with prayer
Introduction: Christ is supreme in the universe. He is the image of the unseen God through whom God created the world. He is Lord over all, and all creation is united to Him. He rules the church and has provided reconciliation for all creation. He is God, He is man. He is Lord of the living and Lord of the dead.
Part I – 1:15-23 – Describe the supremacy of Christ? – Why is it important to be reconciled to God through Christ (vs22)? – How does Christ's supremacy relate to our possessions (vs 16-18)? – In what ways, can you increase your understanding of Christ's supremacy?
Part II – 1:24-29 – How did Paul labor in building up the body of Christ? – What does it mean to present every man perfect in Christ? – How does verse 28 relate to Matthew 28:18-20? – What specific application do you plan to make from this section?
Review memory verse: Colossians 1:18
Conclusion: Through the saving power of the gospel, men can experience Christ's supremacy. For mature disciples, there is no greater cause then to help another other man become perfect in Christ.
Close with prayer

Create your own notes:

6. Be a Godly Man

Title of Lesson: Be a Godly Man – 2 Timothy 2:14-39
Objective: - Attendee will identify behavior differences between godly and ungodly men.
Open with prayer
Introduction: Men tend to like a good fight. In the early church, people also tended to like arguing. While having an honest debate can be healthy, God's word points out those who enter into godless chatter and vain arguments will become more ungodly. It does not produce the righteous life God desires for His men.
Part I: 2:14-19 – What did you learn about the godly men (vs 14-16)? – Why is it important to study God's word (15-16)? – How does quarreling relate to ungodliness (vs 16)? – From this section, what could you apply to your everyday life?
Part II: 2:20-26 – What are the issues Paul is trying to drive home to his protégé Timothy? – Why does Paul warn Timothy about the evil desires of youth (vs 22)? – How does verses 20 and 21 relate to Romans 9:20-21? – When should you argue with another person?
Part III: 3:1-9 – What are the last days going to be like? – What does it mean to have a form of godliness but deny its power (vs 5)? – How does Jannes and Jambres relate to Exodus 7:11? – What should you do when you are forced to live or work with individuals who always oppose God's word?
Review memory verse: 2 Timothy 2:24
Conclusion: If men spend time acting ungodly, they will develop more sin and problems with their lives. If men spend time working on godliness, they will develop a more Christ like character.
Close with prayer

Create your own notes:

7. Do the Right Thing

Title of Lesson: Do the Right Thing – Titus 3:1-14
Objective: - Attendee learns to respond biblically to circumstances where God has placed them in life.
Open with prayer
Introduction: Christian men are to live as representatives of God in an ungodly world. They are to live lives with moral and civic responsibility. God has placed His men where He wants to use them for His kingdom.
Part I – 3:1-8 – How does Paul describe ways men can live life by doing what is good and right? – What does it mean to be enslaved by all kinds of passions and desires (vs 3)? – How does being saved by washing and renewal of the Holy Spirit relate to doing good and living right (vs 5-6)? – What areas of your life could use improvement at being a better man?
Part II – 3:9-11 – What are Paul’s comments regarding men who like controversy and arguments? – How can you demonstrate love to others and still apply Paul’s guidelines?
Part III – 3:12-14 – What did you learn from Paul’s final remarks? – Why is it important for Christian men to earn a living and provide for the daily necessities of their families (vs 14)? – How does verse 14 relate to Romans 13:1-2? – How can you glorify God as a man who does the right thing?
Review memory verse: Titus 3:8
Conclusion: The way men respond to those in authority over them is one way the world will know Christian men are different. Only in areas which clearly violate God’s word are godly men to protest or exercise civil disobedience.
Close with prayer

Create your own notes:

8. Love Like a Man

Title of Lesson: Demonstrate Genuine Love – 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13
Objective: - Attendee learns and applies Biblical love to the people in his sphere of influence
Open with prayer
Introduction: This module focuses on learning true biblical love. Most Christian men are extremely poor at demonstrating biblical love to others. Jesus is the perfect example of a masculine form of love. All men should follow His example.
Part I – 12:31b-13:3 – What are some things you learned about love? – How would you make an application from this section of the Scripture text?
Part II – 13:4-7 – What is the biblical definition of love? – Why is it important to know God’s definition of true love? – How does this definition relate to God the Father and God the Son? – Where in your life do you need to apply God’s definition of love?
Part III – 13:8-13 – What type of impact can a man make when he demonstrates biblical love? – What does it mean to become a mature man in Christ? – How does biblical love relate to exercising your spiritual gifts? – How can you apply this truth to your life?
Review memory verse: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7
Conclusion: Love should be the goal for all relationships and the foundation for all ministries. Programs, processes, and activities mean nothing if love does not motivate them. Love is a consistent attitude of personal humility and devotion to the good of others.
Close with prayer

Create your own notes:

9. Develop Proper Relationships

Title of Lesson: Develop Proper Relationships – Ephesians 5:21-6:9
Objective: - Attendee will develop biblical relationships based on mutual submission to Christ
Open with prayer
Introduction: When men become true believers, they enter into the family of God. God becomes their Father, and every saint becomes a member of God’s family. God has stipulated in His word a standard of proper conduct on how men are to relate to others in and out of the family.
Part I – 5:21-33 – Describe the kind of relationship God wants for a husband and wife? – What is the meaning of submission? – How does a man loving his wife as Christ loved the church, relate to her being submissive to his leadership? – How can you love your wife as Christ loved the Church? (If single ask “How does a godly man love his wife as Christ loved the church?”)
Part II – 6:1-4 – What are God’s instructions for parents and children? – Why is it important for fathers to not exasperate their children? – How does being a good father relate to God as our Father? – What can you do to be a better parent? (if single, focus on spiritual parenting)
Part III – 6:5-9 – What kind of relationships should you have at work? – What does it mean to do the will of God from the heart? – How does working hard in your job relate to investing in God’s kingdom? – What are some areas of work where you can apply these guidelines?
Review memory verse: Ephesians 5:21
Conclusion: The apostle Paul provides instruction in three areas that all men need to live as servants of the living God: husband and wife, children and parents, employers and employees. All three require an attitude of love and sacrifice for the benefit of others.
Close with prayer

Create your own notes:

10. Fix Your Eyes on Jesus

Title of Lesson: Fix Your Eyes on Jesus – Hebrews 12:1-29
Objective: - Attendee will look to Christ for guidance, forgiveness, and strength in times of trouble.
Open with prayer
Introduction: No one likes to endure difficulties in life; however, this is how God builds into a man's character. Storms are turbulent and in the midst they do not always appear beneficial. God's discipline is designed to lead His people back to Him, build faith, and prepare for the future. Jesus is the ultimate example of a disciplined life. During all of His persecution and troubled times He lived an obedient life. Christian men need to bear up under trials and to keep going especially when the going is tough
Part I – Hebrews 12:1-13 - What did you learn about God and His disciplines? - What does it mean to fix our eyes on Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith? - Why do discipline and love go together? - How do men receive God's discipline?
Part II – Hebrews 12:14-28 - What happens to a man who refuses God? - For those who accept Christ, what does it mean to be Holy? - How does the situation faced by the Israelites relate to the new situation faced by every man who worships Christ? - How can you or the men of this church be more thankful and worship God with reverence and awe?
Review memory verse: Hebrews 12:2
Conclusion: When God calls His men to a life of kingdom soldiering He expects His soldiers to express thanks and properly worship no matter what their situation or experience. It takes a committed man to constantly fix his eyes on Christ, honor God, and obey His Word. All of God's men need discipline. Look through your notes. List an area where you need to develop godly discipline. If you need help developing this kind of application, ask a man you trust or someone who is already helping you live a godly life.
Close with prayer

Create your own notes:

11. Reside in God's Will

Title of Lesson: Reside In God's Will – Romans 12:1-21
Objective: - Attendee will learn principles for discerning God's will
Open with prayer
Introduction: This section of scripture contains two themes for individuals who want to live as godly men. One is to be a living sacrifice and the other is applying Christian love. The world is constantly trying to mold the Christians mind. To be a living sacrifice requires transformation. Minds are transformed by spending time in God's word and practicing a sense of His presence.
Part I – 12:1-8 – What did you learn regarding living sacrifices? – What does it mean to be transformed by the renewing of your mind? – How does Romans 12:2 relate to 1 John 2:15, 16? – What can you do to be a living sacrifice?
Part II – 12:9-21 – In what ways can you demonstrate God's love? – What does it mean to overcome evil with good? – How does love relate to doing God's will? – How are you going to demonstrate love in your sphere of influence?
Review memory verse: Romans 12: 2
Conclusion: When men grow in the process of renewing their minds, they learn how to be responsible members of Christ's body. Responsible godly men consistently work on three things: 1. They view people appropriately, 2. They use their gifts as God intended, and 3. They demonstrate biblical love.
Close with prayer

Create your own notes:

12. Watch Your Tongue

Title of Lesson: Watch your Tongue – James 3:1-18
Objective: - Attendee will recognize the danger of speaking words without thinking first and put into place a prayer and plan to always build up those he speaks too.
Open with prayer
Introduction: God's man impacts other people with words and sentences. Unfortunately, words do not always build up the listener. All too often words hurt and wound rather than help and heal. Words should please God including those used in anger and in arguments. With a few ill-chosen words a man can destroy his reputation, severely damage his relationships, and stop any potential impact for the future.
Part I – James 3:1-12 – What were some of the main things you learned in this section of Scripture? – Why are leaders and teachers judged more strictly by God? – How does the tongue relate or compare to the rest of the human body? – Why is taming the tongue an important lesson for a man? – How does a man tame his tongue?
Part II – James 3:13-18 – What are the two kinds of wisdom that James describes? – Why is envy and selfish ambition such evil sins? – Is having ambition wrong? Yes/No? Why? – How does being a peacemaker relate to being a wise and godly man? – What are some keyways a man can grow in wisdom?
Review memory verse: James 3:9-10
Conclusion: Words control our relationships with other people. Unfortunately, sinful men sometimes use words that discredit their Christian confession before the members of their families and the people in their office. Prayerfully consider who you have spoken too that needs to hear your humility and repentance or in some cases your reproof and confrontation. Make a plan to work on strengthening the relationship.
Close with prayer

Create your own notes:

Summary

In this section, you acquired knowledge and experience regarding the pursuit of holiness and practice of godliness. You should be able to:

- Bear spiritual fruit
- Remove sinful habits and patterns from your life
- Practice godly behaviors that glorify God
- Acclaim Christ is Lord as well as Savior of your life
- Be a godly man in an ungodly world
- Do the right things at home, at work, and in your community
- Demonstrate biblical love to believers and non-believers alike
- Look to Christ for forgiveness, guidance, and discipline
- Develop godly relationships at work, at home, and in the community
- Seek and reside in God's perfect and pleasing will for your life
- Build solid relationships by controlling the tongue and seeking to apply godly wisdom

Bearing spiritual fruit, pursuing holiness, and practicing godliness are life-time goals for the serving man of God. Make them part of your everyday life, the rewards are eternal.