

DAVID'S MEN

SEEKING THE HEART OF GOD



2018-2019 Topics and Reading List

Month	Topic	Books
September	Retreat (9/14 - 9/15, 2018)	
October	Follower of Christ	<i>How to Ruin Your Life: And Starting Over When You Do</i> (Geiger)
November	Prayer	<i>A Praying Life</i> (Miller)
December	Sexual Purity	<i>When Good Men are Tempted</i> (Perkins)
January	Marriage	Married Men - <i>The 5 Love Languages: Men's Edition</i> (Chapman) Single Men - <i>The 5 Love Languages</i> (Chapman)
February	Stewardship/Generosity	<i>The God Guarantee: Finding Freedom from the Fear of Not Having Enough</i> (Alexander)
March	Scripture	Galatians
April	Apologetics	<i>Mere Christianity</i> (Lewis)
May	Evangelism	<i>Good News for a Change: How to Talk to Anyone About Jesus</i> (Mikalatos)
June	The Local Church	<i>What is a Healthy Church Member?</i> (Anyabwile)
September	DM Retreat (date TBD)	

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Follower of Christ

David's Men focuses on discipleship. A disciple is a follower of someone or a set of beliefs.

Matthew 4:19 *And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."*

Luke 9:23 *And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."*

John 10:27 *My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.*

Mark 10:21 *And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."*

Jesus offered salvation when He died on the cross, bearing God's judgement for our sins. Jesus offers sanctification (becoming more like Him) as we follow Him more closely day by day (look at Luke 9:23 again and note the word "daily"). Being a Christ follower means more than just salvation through Christ...it also means yielding to the lordship of Christ!

It's been said, "*All men are one bad decision from stupid.*" As Christ followers, we continue to battle our old sinful nature, and while we have the power of God's spirit within us, we can still make bad decisions yielding destructive consequences. As we begin this year, we'll dive deeper into David's life. Described in scripture as "a man after God's own heart," he nonetheless wrecked his life (and damaged the lives of others) through poor choices, isolation, and pride. Yet through it all, God loved him and redeemed his life as David repented and shifted his focus back to God. Oh, the power and overwhelming mercy of God's grace!

We began our relationship as a group at the retreat, and we need to continue developing a safe place where we can openly share together. Hearing others' stories is a great way to deepen our connection.

Current Month Assignments

- Read *How to Ruin Your Life: And Starting Over When You Do* by Eric Geiger and prepare a book summary to share with the group. The summary should be approximately one page with the following info:
 - List the big ideas.
 - List your key takeaways.
 - Discuss how you will apply to your life now.
 - Email to each DM in your group prior to this month's meeting.
- Complete *30 Minutes to a Shareable Testimony* (see resources list) and be prepared to share your testimony with your group at this month's meeting.
- Memorize the verses attached. Be prepared to quote each verse and reference. It will be helpful for you to read *10 Steps to Start Memorizing Scripture* and *5 Steps to Meditating on Your Bible* (see Resources list).
- Meet with one other guy in the group ("Man-Date"): This would be a great opportunity to practice saying your verses.

Resources:

- **REMINDER:** Each month, go to biltmorechurch.com/davidsmen to download that month's materials.
- Resources for preparing to share your story/testimony:
 - ***30 Minutes to a Shareable Testimony:*** Read this post, download the pdf, and complete the pdf as you plan to share your story with your group.
evangelism.intervarsity.org/how/conversation/30-minutes-shareable-testimony
 - Others:
 - <https://www.cru.org/train-and-grow/share-the-gospel/evangelism-principles/how-to-tell-your-story-worksheet.html>
 - <https://www.cru.org/train-and-grow/share-the-gospel/evangelism-principles/preparing-your-personal-testimony.html>
- Resources for memorizing scripture:
 - ***10 Steps to Start Memorizing Scripture:***
<http://www.christianitytoday.com/biblestudies/articles/spiritualformation/10-tips-to-start-memorizing-scripture.html?start=1>
 - Scripture Memory Apps such as scripturetyper.com/. For others, Google "Scripture Memory Apps."

Memory Verses

NOTES:

- Each month we'll have some core verses for all DMs to memorize. In addition, we'll have a "Plus One" verse for DM veterans (ie., non-1st year DMs) to memorize.
- This year we're using the *English Standard Version (ESV)* Bible translation, but you can memorize from whichever translation you prefer.

Topic: Jesus at the Core

2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold the new has come.

Galatians 2:20 - I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Topic: Submission to Christ

John 14:21 - Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.

Luke 9:23 - And he said to them all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."

+ 1 (for DM veterans)

2 Corinthians 7:10 - For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.