

## GOD'S MODEL FOR MANHOOD

Dear Friends:

Lately I have been reading about the life of David. He's a fascinating figure; God called him "a man after my own heart". However, he was not a perfect man and had several flaws. His two glaring flaws were: a weakness for women (he had so many an accurate count can't be done) and David failed miserably as a father. I Kings tells us he did not discipline his children. David became a Godly man but he was not a good model for fatherhood.

What is God's model for manhood and fatherhood? Using Philippians 2:19-24 as a guide we learn 4 characteristics of Godly manhood. The first characteristic is compassion. I know...The lone "macho man" in movies sells tickets but he is not a good model for Godly manhood. God is looking for men of compassion, men who put relationships before results, people before profits.

A second characteristic: consistency. Men who put character before conformity, who are not afraid to *NOT* conform to the culture. Men who do not act like a saint at church but the opposite at home.

A third characteristic: commitment. Men who put the cause of Christ first. Men who keep their priorities in order. God first, family second, and work third. The final characteristic of Godly manhood: Courage, especially the courage to stay committed to God no matter what! The courage to say "no" to that which is wrong. Whether it is the need to say no to one's children or no to someone at work who wants to violate ethics, even if it costs one's job. By the way, David had so much trouble with his children because he did not know how to tell them "NO". As we head into this Father's Day weekend, men, I will pray that you can be God's model of manhood.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Mike

Prayer: Pastor Michael Mowonge (trip back to Uganda), Thank God for your father, Tim Brown as he leads Fellowship of Christian Athletes camps this week, Vickie McCandlish (balance & nutrition problems)