

AHM

CONNECT
TEACHING

Welcome to

*Offering men hope
and direction
in a confusing world
through
Jesus Christ.*



AHM Connect

Dr. Scott Engelman

© AHM 2018

Today's Host

Tim O'Halla



AH+M

AWAKENED HEART
MINISTRIES

AH+M

CORAM DEO
MEN'S GROUPS

AH+M

MEN'S STORY
WEEKEND

AH+M

MARRIAGE
INTENSIVES

Offering Men
Hope and
Direction
in a
Confusing World
through
Jesus Christ.

AH+M

CLINICAL THEOLOGY
COHORT

AH+M

PASTORS
SOUL CARE

AH+M

CONNECT
TEACHING

AHM IN FOCUS

Getting Our Message Out:



Series Slides Available
at our Website:
AHM4.Life



Video Clip:

Do Men Need Hope and Direction?



Recent Article

November 22, 2019

The Telegraph

Log in

News Politics Sport Business Money Op

See all News

Home > News

Women react better in disasters than men because men are more likely to go to the window and watch, study finds

Share Save

Article Summary

During a Storm
Men are drawn to windows
while women go to middle of room

Article Conclusion

Even though women are better equipped than men to deal with emergencies, their families often are not safe in a disaster because Men typically take the leadership role

Translation:

Because Men are reckless they shouldn't be trusted to lead

Is That True?



Question

Is it possible to take the data from this study, interpret in another way and reach a **different conclusion**?

Could this study be telling us more about:

A man's
Creational Design
than his
Reckless Nature

A Man's
Masculine Function
than his
Male Irresponsibility

New Series

Manhood:
A Chaos-Engaging Presence

Purpose of Series

Offer men Hope and Direction
by pointing us back to
Biblical Story of Creation

Who we
are
as Men

How we
Designed to
Function

Why we
Struggle as
we do

Where we
go for
Help

Problem!

We have ignored
the Creation Story

We have listened to
Culture's Story

We have become **CONFUSED** about:

Who we
are
as Men

How we
Designed to
Function

Why we
Struggle as
we do

Where we
go for
Help

Result

Typical American Male

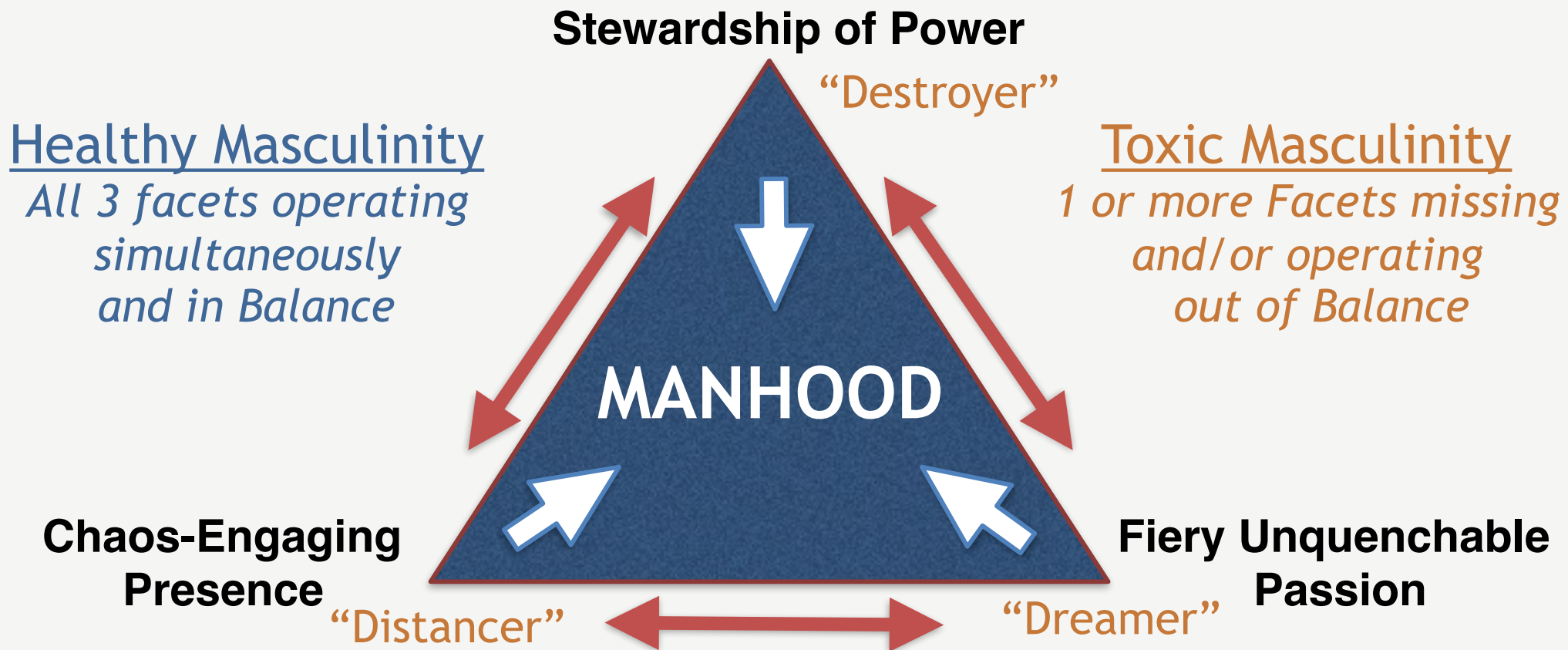


Pursuit of Manhood
without
Hope/Direction
of the Creation Story

Men don't know **WHO** they *Are* or **WHAT** they are *For*

For This Reason

Bring Clarity to the Confusion
by considering “2nd Facet” of Manhood:
A Chaos-Engaging Presence



Outline for 2nd Facet

Manhood: A Chaos-Engaging Presence

Session 1:

Your Masculine Design
Made to Be Like God

Session 2:

Your Masculine Mission
Made to Create Like God

Session 3:

Your Masculine Movement
Made to Engage Like God

Today



Use 1 Corinthians 16:13
to Springboard us
into **Creation Story**

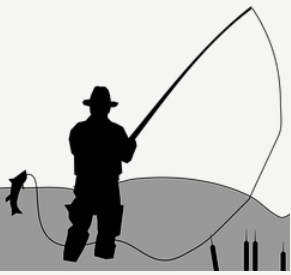


1 Corinthians 16:13

“Be alert;
stand firm in the faith;
ACT LIKE MEN;
be strong!”

What IMAGES Come to Mind?

Where do these IMAGES Come From?



Answer

How we think about Manhood
often comes more from
our own Story
than the Creation Story

The Home we
grew up in

Our experience
of Adolescence

The character
of our Fathers

Cultural trends
we absorbed

For this Reason



Drill down into Text
To better understand
what *Bible* means
when it says:

“ACT LIKE MEN!”

Make 3 Observations

Observation #1

Manhood requires Strength

“ACT LIKE MEN, be strong”

Whatever Manhood is
it's impossible
without exerting some form of strength

While Manhood
requires strength
it's not
about strength

Strength is the
MEANS of Manhood
Never the
MEASURE of Manhood

Footnote on Strength

Cultural Narrative gives 2 conflicting Messages

- ✓ Male strength is **Toxic** and *must be diminished*
- ✓ Male strength is the **Measure** and *must be pursued*

Contrast Message of Biblical Story

- ✓ We can hold/exercise power and not “*act like men,*”
- ✓ But we can never “*act like men*” without exercising power



Observation #2

Manhood requires Awareness

“Be alert...ACT LIKE MEN”

Whatever Manhood is
it's impossible
Without being watchful/prepared

“Watchful”

*World around you
and inside you*

WHY?



Each “World” triggers the
other, *blurring the way
we see Reality*

“Prepared”

*Ready to act based
on what you see*

WHY?



Manhood is about
engaging Reality,
Not our false views of it

Observation #3

Manhood requires Grounding

“Stand firm in the Faith, ACT LIKE MEN”

Whatever Manhood is
it's impossible
without being anchored in God

Why?

Manhood not happen in
Ivory Towers
safely discussing
abstract concepts

Manhood not happen in
Men's Groups
comfortably studying
biblical principles

Manhood happens in
Life's Rough Tumble
where we struggle with
concrete problems

Painful

Exhausting

Unfixable

Confusing

Disruptive

Unpredictable

Threatening

Frustrating

Terrifying

Uncontrollable

Overwhelming

Question

What happens *inside* Men
in the Rough-and-Tumble of Life?

We slowly **REALIZE**
concepts/principles
about Manhood
are not enough

We attempt to find
ways to **COPE** through
destroying, distancing,
and/or **dreaming**

We try to **AVOID**
uncomfortable questions
about our *identity and*
adequacy as Men

We seek **RELIEF**
by listening to
the Cultural Narrative
about Manhood

We Become The Typical American Male!

I Don't Know
Who I am



I Don't Know
What I'm For

70% No Meaningful Faith

Question

What does it mean to
STAND FIRM IN THE FAITH
In the Rough/Tumble of Life?

Commit to Learning How To...

Cling to God
as our *Source of Life,*
Protection and Strength

Turn away from Coping
Styles that corrupt our
Masculine Design

Ground ourselves in
God's *Story of Creation*
and Gospel Story of
Re-creation in Christ

Courageously reject
Cultural Narrative about
Manhood and its self-
focused approach to life

What We've Seen

(1 Corinthians 16:13)

“ACTING LIKE MEN” Requires:

Strength
as Means

Awareness
of Reality

Grounding
in Faith

Conclusions

Manhood is a
Good thing
to be pursued

Manhood is a
Hard thing
to be engaged

Manhood is a
God thing
to be honored

Not a toxic thing
to be denied

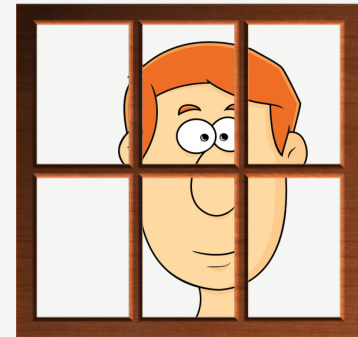
Not an easy thing
to be discussed

Not cultural thing
to be redefined

QUESTION

How do all these
“Ivory Tower concepts”
about Manhood
translate into
the Rough-N-Tumble of Life?

What does all this have to do with
Men going to Windows
during a Storm?



5 Minutes



BREAK
TIME

Question Before Break

What does it look like to
ACT LIKE MEN
in the Rough/Tumble of Life?

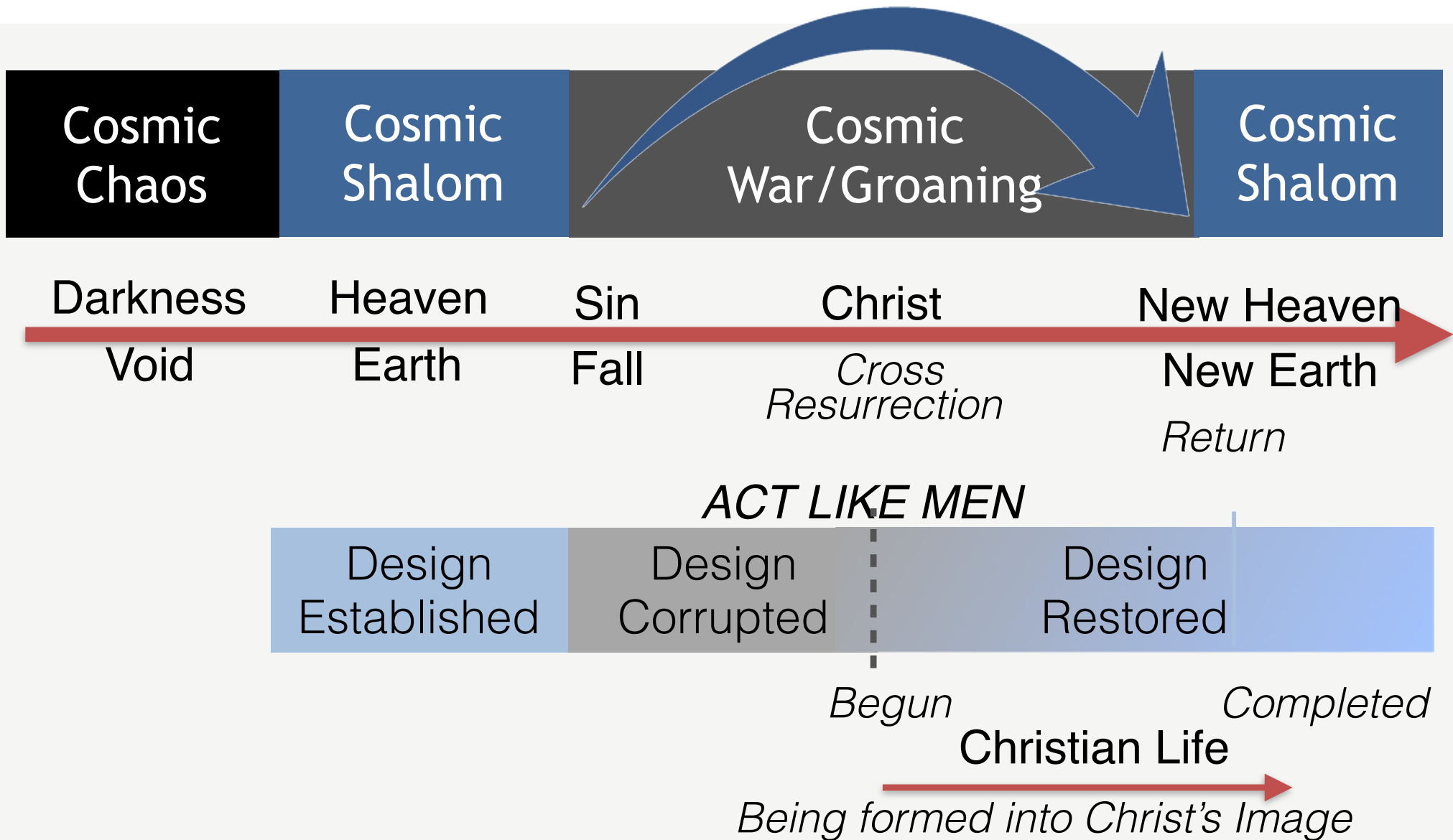
Not Simple Answer

Manhood is a complex creation of God, corrupted by sin, fleshed out in a broken world

Suggest Approach

Study Creation Story to determine God's original male design that's now being restored by the Gospel Story

Creation Story/Gospel Story Overview



Starting Point: *Genesis 2:19*

The LORD God formed out of the ground
every living animal of the field
and every bird of the air.

*He brought them to the man
to see what he would name them,
and whatever the man called each living creature,
that was its name.*



What's This Saying?

Consider Context:

- Day #6 of 7 Day Creation Narrative
- The Garden/Park has no one to care for it
- God creates the Man to care for the Garden, placing him in the midst of it.
- God shows the Man the wonder of the Garden, explaining the rules for life in the Garden with God
- God creates animals/birds and brings them to the Man, giving him his first task—name them!



Question

What's this Task about?

Random or Significant?



Answer

It's a Significant Clue!



Immediate Context

Describing
"Act like a Man"

Genesis 2



Larger Context

It's a Call to
"Be like God"

Genesis 1



In the Whole Creation Story

To "Act like a Man" is to "Be like God"



The Larger Context of Genesis 1

Tells the story
of how in seven days
the one God

Made everything in the Cosmos
to have a functional, interdependent role

So that there would exist
a well-ordered, life-giving World
for the benefit/flouring of Humankind



Note How the Story Begins

In the beginning God created
the heavens and the earth.
Now the earth was formless and void,
and darkness covered
the surface of the watery abyss
(Gen 1:1-2)



What's this Describing?

State of the Cosmos
When God began to Create
the Heavens/Earth

Completely
“Formless and Void”

An unproductive,
uninhabitable,
vacant, lifeless
place

Fully Engulfed by
“Darkness and Water”

A chaotic, shapeless
non-ordered,
non-purposeful
non-functional abyss

In Other Words

The Creation Story
begins by telling us
when God began to create the Cosmos
it was a dark/watery, lifeless,
uninhabitable abyss
that lacked any kind of order, form,
function, purpose or value



Important Note!

Creation Story
is not about
Non-Existence to Existence
but about
Chaos to Order

Not about Origins

Where everything
comes from

About Functionality

Why everything is
the way it is

Where is God as the Story Begins?

“And the Spirit of God was moving over
the surface of the watery abyss.”
Gen 1:2

- ✓ Fully present in the Chaos
- ✓ Keenly aware of its Non-functional State
- ✓ Ready to move into action to establish Shalom

Not Absent

Not Preoccupied

Not Unresponsive

What Does God Do?

God acts to create
a well ordered, functioning environment
of diversity-in-unity
by assigning unique, interdependent roles
to everything in Heaven/Earth
through a 6 day process of
separating and naming



Days 1-3

God sets up *Functions*
Necessary for Life to thrive on Earth

	Functions	Separates	Names
Day 1	Time to order Existence	Light Darkness	Day Night
Day 2	Weather to regulate water	Waters Above/Below	Heavens (Sky)
Day 3	Food/Plants to perpetuate Life	Waters Below	Land Sea

Days 4-6

God installs *Functionaries* to assist in carrying out the Functions of Days 1-3

Day 4

Sun, Moon Stars
set in the sky
to assist
Function of Time
(Day 1)

Day 5

Fish/Birds
created to assist in
bringing life/beauty
to Water/Sky
(Day 2)

Day 6

Humans/Animals
created to assist
in bringing life/order
to Land/Sea
(Day 3)

NOTE!

God creates
Animals but doesn't
assign function by
separating/naming

Why?

“The Lord brought them to the man to see what he would name them, and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name.”

Genesis 2:19

Function

Separates

Names

Day 6

God creates
Land Animals
from ground

Adam separates
mass of Animals
into species

Adam discerns
function/role of
each species

In other words

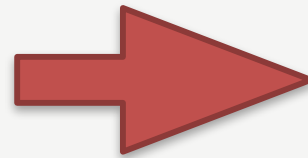
God forms from the ground every species of animal on the earth.

But this time He assigns the task of separating/naming to the Man

Smaller Context

ACT LIKE
A MAN

Genesis 2:19



Larger Context

BE LIKE
GOD

Genesis 1:1-26

And What is God Like?

God is a Chaos-Engaging Presence

FULLY PRESENT
in the Chaos

Not Distant or Unaware

ACTIVELY MOVING
in the Chaos

Not Passive or Paralyzed

PRODUCTIVELY SPEAKING
in the Chaos

Not Loud or Silent

Out of the *chaos, darkness and non-function* comes a place of **order, beauty, life**

In that Good Place God places the Man and says:
BE LIKE ME...



Be a Chaos-Engaging Presence!

Like God be fully PRESENT
in the Chaos

Not Distant or Unaware

Like God be actively MOVING
in the Chaos

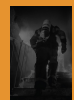
Not Passive or Paralyzed

Like God be productively
SPEAKING in the Chaos

Not Loud or Silent

Out of the chaos,
darkness, dysfunction
of your World
you are to create
order, beauty, life

To BE LIKE GOD
is to
ACT LIKE A MAN!



Concluding Scenario

You come home today and your wife/girlfriend sitting on couch crying.

You ask her
“What’s wrong, Honey?”

And she answers
IT’S US!

Breaks into
uncontrollable Sobs



What Should You Do?

- ✓ Ignore her and go watch *Everybody Loves Raymond*?
- ✓ Quickly review your notes from today
- ✓ Get angry, tell her she's too sensitive and doesn't appreciate how lucky she is to have a man like you?
- ✓ Get out your calendar and plan a date night?
- ✓ Give her a hug and tell her you'll try harder to be better
 - ✓ Go buy some flowers

What Should You Do?

Whatever you do
ACT LIKE A MAN!

Be a Chaos-Engaging Presence!

**Go to the Window
and don't avoid the Storm!**

You've been perfectly shaped/designed for this!



But You Ask:

What
would that
LOOK LIKE?

Need some Flesh
on the Bones

Why
does it seem
SO SCARY?

Rather step back
from Window

Next Time
2nd Saturday
February 8, 2020
9:00AM

Your Masculine Mission: *Made to Create Like God* @ Troy Community Center



Thank You For Coming!

*Offering men hope
and direction
in a confusing world
through
Jesus Christ.*



See you next time!