



# MVC MEN

## THE MEN WE NEED

Read and study through the listed passages and answer the questions as you go. Ideally, you'll work through the lesson on your own and then talk and pray about your discoveries together in a men's small group. Take good notes as you go and take plenty of time to dive in, think, and pray. Our goal is to run at a longer distance pace more than a sprint (about one lesson per month). Read the pages in "The Men We Need" along with the lesson to foster additional discussion as well.

---

## LESSON 4: TOO BUSY WITH "FAKE HEROICS?"

---

**KEY PASSAGES FOR STUDY:** Matthew 26:57-28:75, 2 Corinthians 5:17-21, Ephesians 2:10, 3:7-12, 5:15-17, Titus 2:11-14 (see Titus 3:8 also).

**READ:** "The Men We Need," Pages 68-75 [Decision 1 (continued): Forsake the fake and relish the real.]

---

1. Beyond lust and sexual sin, there are other fake pursuits and sources of counterfeit joys/pleasures. What are some of them in our culture? Which ones are most distracting to you personally?
2. What is your response to this statement? "Please don't waste your God-given desire for adventure and accomplishment by being a fake hero fighting fake injustices in fake worlds."<sup>1</sup>
3. Fix your eyes on Jesus. Continue to reflect on his character and actions following the garden in Matthew 26:57 through 28:75 (the end of Matthew's gospel). In what specific ways is Jesus "heroic" throughout all of it? Take your time and list as many observations as you can:

How do his character, actions, and instructions define AND empower who you are and what you're all about in this life?

---

<sup>1</sup> Portions of some questions taken from "The Men We Need," p. 241-245. Reprinted with publisher permission.

4. How does your identity in Jesus inform your focus and purpose in life? What might be some specific ways in your own life in which you want to get more intentional?
  
5. Take time to read and think on the larger context around Ephesians 5:15-17 (let's say at least 5:1-21). What are the commands you see? What are the things that are true about you? What are we called away from? What are we called toward? Etc.

A lot of this passage is focused on sexual immorality but consider the bigger picture. How would you communicate from this passage and the surrounding context - what our lives are to be about (and not just what we're to *avoid*)?

6. If you were to write a mission statement for the man you want to be, what are all the possible things that could be in it? Just think on it and make a list for now (continued in later lessons).

**HEART & ACTION:** Summarize the biggest thing(s) God is doing in your heart and the main action step(s) you believe he wants you to take. Discuss one of each with the group. Get accountable, pray together, stay dependent, and make a commitment to sacrificial love in action.