



4. STOP! Don't rush. Think, pray, and be honest and vulnerable. What might you need to confess (Laziness, passivity, anger, harshness, impatience, indifference, other)? What practical steps can you begin to take right now to authentically reflect Jesus to the women and children in your life?
  
5. "I came to realize that the man I needed to kill in order to protect my wife (and kids) is *myself as a sinner.*" What is your response to this statement? Can you relate to the damage you can cause with your anger and harsh words in your own home? In what way?<sup>2</sup>
  
6. Would others around you describe you as "encouraging?" (See James 3:3-12) Write down some encouraging things you need to say to the ones closest to you—maybe something that you have never said or don't say enough—and say those things to them as soon as possible.
  
7. Each of us probably longs to be a "life-giving" man in the lives of others. We don't want those closest to us simply to be "surviving" or not too adversely impacted by us. We want to bring joy and help people *flourish*. In what specific ways would you say God wants to mold you more into that kind of man ("the man we need")?
  
8. You have been working on a life purpose/mission statement. At the end of the last lesson, you wrote down a first draft based on all your previous notes. Spend some time refining it if needed.

**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.

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<sup>2</sup> Portions of some questions taken from "The Men We Need," p. 241-245. Reprinted with publisher permission.