



# MVCC MEN

## THE MEN WE NEED - FINAL LESSON

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 and/or in a larger men's gathering. Take good notes as you go and take plenty of time to dive in, think, and pray. Read the pages in "The Men We Need" along with the lesson to foster additional discussion as well.

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### LESSON 10: TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR OWN SPIRITUAL LIFE

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**KEY PASSAGES FOR STUDY:** Deuteronomy 10:12-13, Micah 6:8, Matthew 22:36-40, Romans 8:12-17, 1 Corinthians 1:4-9, 1 Thessalonians 5:23, 24, 2 Timothy 2:1-7, James 1:4, 2 Peter 1:5-11

**READ:** "The Men We Need," Pages 207-240 [Decision 6: Take responsibility for your own spiritual life.]

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1. "What in the world does God want from me?" What are some of the ways you've answered that question in the past? How would you say you answer it now and what does it look like in your life?
  
2. Discuss the idea that what God is looking for from us is a believing, trusting loyalty?<sup>1</sup> How do some of the passages you've read for this lesson describe the same thing (loyalty, faithfulness, etc.)?
  
3. What role do feelings have in your spiritual life? Do you need to feel God's presence or experience "religious feelings" in order to be loyal to him? Why or why not?
  
4. As the author says, we are not "feelings driven" as believers but along with number 3 above, what place do your *affections* play in a relationship with God? How might that familiar Matthew 22 passage (the great commandment) inform you on this? What does affectionate faithfulness to God look like practically from day to day?

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

5. Consider the above passages (and others that come to mind) carefully again. Where does your faithfulness come from? How is it fueled? What are the implications of this truth?
  
6. Remember, God still claims us. He still wants us. He can help us change and HE IS FAITHFUL! That's the strongest place to be. You are an adopted "son of God" if you've put your faith in Christ. Discuss some of the ways you can grow in your spiritual life as you live out this powerful identity in him.
  
7. Spend some time thinking about the man you want to be (talk in your group about it). Describe your vision for who you want to become, how you will treat people (bring "healing, peace, and life"), and how you can be a keeper of the garden around you.
  
8. There's some overlap here with the previous question but it's worth it. Over the duration of the 9 previous studies, you have had different opportunities to consider different elements of an intentional life purpose and direction. Write down a final life purpose/mission statement that reflects the kind of man you want to be? THE MAN WE NEED? Share your statement with those closest to you (those "in your garden.")

**MY VISION AND PURPOSE - TO BE THE MAN OTHER'S NEED:**