



ZOWEH
ELDER-SAGE
INITIATIVE

The Redeeming Generational Masculinity Video Series

The Elder-Sage Stage

To the Elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings... Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watch over them not because you must ... but because you are willing (compelled), be examples to the flock.

1 Peter 5:1-4

Welcome to The Redeeming Generational Masculinity Video Series workbook. This section of the workbook covers the Elder-Sage stage of the masculine journey! Some of you may be unfamiliar with Zoweh and its founder, Michael Thompson, so let's start with a little background.

In 2004, Michael and his wife Robin, who had been missionaries with Campus Crusade for many years, felt God calling them to set out on their own and establish a ministry that could directly impact the hearts and lives of men and women in and around the "triangle" region of North Carolina, which generally consists of the cities of Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill and the surrounding area. As Michael was reading from *Mere Christianity* by beloved author C. S. Lewis, he found (in the fourth part of the book) where Lewis describes the difference between the biological life (or bios) and the spiritual, eternal life of Jesus Christ and his followers (or zoé), which means life, the abundant life Jesus offers in John 10:10. It was then that Michael knew he had been given the name of this new endeavor to be called "Zoweh".

The unique spelling of Zoweh is derived from the ancient Greek word "zoé," and the ancient Hebrew word "Yahweh," the name for God. This combination represents a life that is connected to and sustained by God.

The Four Pillars of Zoweh

There are four “pillars” that support Zoweh in its vision to see redemptive communities everywhere. They are, in order of importance:

1. Intimacy, oneness and connectedness to God.

We believe this is the foundation of the Kingdom and therefore the fundamental pursuit of every image bearer. Intimacy, oneness, and connectedness are what we are made for, and therefore they are what we most desperately long for. Where we take this longing and core desire matters. Other image-bearers cannot handle our need for love, though they are great secondary sources. God is the only one who can repair what was severed in the Fall and fulfill that hope we carry within us to be seen and known. The entire story of Christianity, the work of redemption, salvation, justification, and sanctification serve to restore us to a place of intimacy, oneness, and connectedness with God (John 17 and John 13:34). This intimacy is violently opposed by the one who would rather we not experience it, much less live to tell about it.

2. Orientation

Orientation refers to knowing who you are, where you are and the good that God is up to in your life. The Christian life is a journey of the heart to becoming Oriented to the Kingdom way. An oriented person is one who holds fast to his or her identity as a beloved son or daughter of God (Galatians 4:7), who understands the gravity of the spiritual battle between the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of darkness, and who is aware that God is always up to something good in our lives, no matter the external circumstances. Not everything that happens to us is God's will, people sin every day, and sin isn't God's will. But where His will isn't being done, His way is. Romans 8:28 says ...

And we know [with great confidence] that God [who is deeply concerned about us] causes all things to work together [as a plan] for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to His plan and purpose. (AMP)

There is a false-self (what the Bible calls “the flesh” or “the old self”) that dwells within every believer. The enemy has long been at work forming this false version of our true selves, and is committed to keeping believers disoriented - unsure of who we are, unclear on what is going on in us and around us and making sure we question whether or not God is good.

At Zoweh, we try to hold fast to this belief: If it isn't good yet ... then God isn't done yet.

3. Nothing to hide, nothing to prove, and nothing to fear

The fruit, the result of an oriented life, is a man or woman who lives with nothing to hide, prove, or fear. That is a man or woman who lives like Jesus. One of the greatest promises to a Kingdom Life as a Christ-apprentice is that God is restoring us into who we truly are. As image-bearers, we are made for Him to inhabit our hearts. Once there through our invitation, God sets to work, redeeming, restoring, and setting us free. "The Good God is up to" is re-making us into who we are, how each of us uniquely bears His image. The more we are transformed, the more we can release our need to (1) hide who we "think" we are; (2) prove we have what it takes or that we can control people and circumstances; and (3) fear that someone will ultimately see through our façade and deliver packages of judgment, condescension, or love that is based on conditions. Jesus lived with such freedom. He knew who he was, where he was, and the good that the Father was up to in His life, and walked with the Father having nothing to hide, nothing to prove, and nothing to fear.

4. More Love, More life, More freedom

We were made for more than just trying not to sin. The Larger Gospel (the full work of God to restore and rescue humanity) is just that ... larger. The smaller gospel is one that never goes further than the cross, sin and forgiveness. Certainly the cross, sin and forgiveness are a critically important part of the gospel, thank goodness for the cross! But staying there leads to a smaller kingdom life, usually just trying not to sin and somehow giving more, doing more and serving more. This is not the Life we were promised and it is not the Life God is offering (John 10:10). There is more. The Larger Gospel invites us to experience the love of God that transforms us, elements of the full work of Christ - the cross, yes, but also the resurrection and ascension. When we become believers, we are given Christ's power and authority, and we are going to need it. We are the beloved sons and daughters, and are invited to live as such in freedom, deployed into the Larger Story to invite others to experience the same! More Love, Life, and Freedom are the delightful results of an Oriented Life: an increasing awareness and enjoyment of God's love, God's constant goodness and generous grace, and the incredible freedom that comes to a life lived in intimacy with Jesus – freedom from fear, shame, insecurity, and isolation; and freedom to live and love wholeheartedly, to be courageous, and to remove the masks and fig leaves we've hidden behind.

You can listen to more about the Four Pillars here: [zsoundcloud.com/user-449852225/sets/the-four-pillars-of-zoweh](https://soundcloud.com/user-449852225/sets/the-four-pillars-of-zoweh) <insert qr code>

The Stages of the Masculine Journey

There are five “stages of masculinity” (six if you include Lover, which spans across them all) which we all journey through as we journey through life. These stages of masculinity are: Boyhood, Explorer, Warrior, Lover, King and Elder-Sage. Feminine hearts have their own version of the journey, but go through similar stages.

You can listen to more about the stages of masculinity here: <https://soundcloud.com/user-449852225/sets/the-masculine-journey>

At The Heart of a Warrior Encounter weekend (your attendance is a requirement) Michael and the team delve more deeply into the exploration of the different stages, simply because we know that each stage must be revisited to reveal and heal wounds, vows and agreements that could be throwing our lives, the abundant lives God intended for us, off track.

In this resource, we are asking you to engage with the stage you're in: the Elder-Sage stage of masculinity. At Zoweh, in our mission and hope to reclaim generational masculinity, we know that training and deploying elder-sages who are living with full hearts, oriented hearts back into our culture and churches will have the most immediate impact on other masculine hearts, young and old.

Whether you are already an Elder-Sage, training to be one, or just kicking the tires of this initiative, we are glad that you are here. Our prayer is that you will draw closer to God, to other men in redemptive friendships and to your own heart. Our hope is that you will find healing in Jesus for the wounds you have suffered and that you will become more oriented and settled as you take this journey with like-minded men.

The invitation is this: come be transformed by the love of our Father so that you can help others find their own healing and transformation. As Elder-Sages, we long to father hearts to the Father.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:1-2

Introduction

So why (you may be asking) does the Elder-Sage Initiative exist? What problem is it trying to address?

Masculinity has been attacked, ridiculed, diminished, and even emasculated in our society. Many men are disoriented, fatherless, confused, living less than God's intention of the "full/abundant life."

Masculinity matters! Each generation matters and oriented Elder-Sages can be an important part of the solution. Younger men are desperate for good role models – older men walking with God. And unfortunately, most elders' lives are not admired, respected or attractive.

Our culture has measured success materialistically and sidestepped a life of eternal or spiritual significance. Man's true identity and real purpose have been compromised, clouded, and confused—much by our own doing and with the help of an enemy who knows, and fears what we might become. God's intention for masculinity has been diminished at best and at worst, it has been co-opted by the enemy to help achieve his dark purpose: steal, kill and destroy families, lives, hearts.

The basic truth is that masculinity was intended to be "bestowed" (affirmed and shared) from one generation to the next. Unfortunately, that is rarely happening due to an epidemic of fatherlessness and a misplaced understanding of "initiation and validation." The result is that there is often no one older, wiser or more experienced to mentor and father the boys, explorers, warriors and kings. And as men age and progress through the stages of masculinity, their influence and kingdoms grow. As their kingdoms grow, the damage, collateral and direct, that is inflicted when one of them is taken out grows as well. Without oriented Elder-Sages who are there to father their hearts, we hear about another, divorce, another affair, another kingdom destroyed by the true enemy of our hearts.

Unfortunately, many older men don't know who they are, where they are and the good God is up to in their lives and so those who may have the experience and

wisdom to help often do not understand the crisis and the opportunity it brings. They're either not aware or do not recognize their intrinsic value bestowed by God, that they can significantly contribute to the life of another man and that there is actually an important role for them to step up to and in to. As a result, elder-sages retreat rather than advance and are not playing in the fourth quarter of their lives to their full potential. Because the culture and its false agreements have relegated them to sit in the stands and observe, they are unwilling or unable to step onto the field and into the important role that God has for them.

Zoweh has been invited by God to address this need, directly attacking the problem. We believe that while youth pastors and ministries to younger men are important, it is more important to engage, encourage, equip and empower older men, elder-sages into the battle for younger hearts, their own included. Vision, mission and strategies are being developed and deployed to reclaim the Elder-Sage, retrain them and redeploy them back into the landscape of this war!

Come with us!

Opportunity

The Elder-Sage Initiative is designed to add a missional focus to this stage of the Masculine Journey which we believe is both strategic and critical. It is the sixth and pinnacle stage of the six stage Masculine Journey. After the King stage and once oriented, we find Godly men who are often unencumbered—they often have more time with greater accessibility and availability. Though the time demands on them have shifted, and many of them still have much to offer spiritually; they have not been given or acknowledged the important opportunity to love and lead others in ways that are both life-giving and impactful. This void creates a great opportunity for men in this stage who have wisdom, insight, understanding, and breadth of experience to help younger men navigate the challenges of life while also helping them pursue who they truly are in the Kingdom through loving and listening.

Think of a caddy in golf. A golf caddy is responsible for far more than simply carrying golf clubs.

A caddy manages a player's equipment, yes he carries their clubs, but also keeps the player's clubs clean, organizes their bag, makes sure the player has enough balls, gloves, tees, all the equipment needed to play the round. They often carry food and drink, foul weather gear, hats, towels and more—everything a player might require during 18 holes of golf. A caddy is not merely a bag carrier though.

They're tasked with advising their player on strategy, on yardages, on which club to select, on how the ground and weather will affect the ball when it lands. They must have good knowledge of the weather and how much the wind will move the ball in the air. A caddy must know the course, the hazards and the opportunities.

Above all, a good caddy will understand the way their player plays the game. Their strengths, their weaknesses and they will provide sage encouragement and guidance on how they should best negotiate each hole and the course in its entirety.

Take a break from reading this workbook, go to this link and watch how Bagger Vance becomes so much more than a caddy for the player, Rannulph Junuh. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NeMjWb9mwQs>

Here's another one for you, where Bagger helps Junuh navigate trauma from his time as a soldier: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mk2Tca88Xo>

We believe that many of these older (many retired) men that have time, experience and wisdom would love to step into a mission. We also believe that their mission is the Warriors (men in their early 20's-30's) and the Kings (men in their early 40's-50's) who need a man (a caddy) with more experience, more wisdom and who can listen and ask good (sometimes hard) questions.

Finally, we believe that there is no "expiration date" on getting your heart back, living in your glory and offering who you are and what you have come to know (skills and experiences) to help others. You and your heart are also the mission!

Characteristics of an Elder-Sage

1. He has a deep and intimate love relationship with God.

(Intimacy, Oneness and Connectedness with God and Others) He is a man who has been and is walking very closely with God in pursuit of being wholehearted. He is not just preaching God or knowing God stuff, but actually regularly experiencing a deep and intimate walk with Him. He is a prayer warrior. He exudes the Living Waters of the Holy Spirit (Jn 7:38-39). He loves Jesus! He sees God's hand in many wonderful ways in his life – in life's highs and lows, in daily interactions and tasks, and he knows with certainty that he is a beloved son.

2. He has a wise and discerning heart.

(Oriented to who he is, where he is and the good that God is up to in his life)

An oriented elder man who has experienced life, but more importantly has examined and processed the experiences of his own life – the joys, the pains, the wounding, the disappointments and the dreams and the healing - with Jesus. He understands that Wisdom is seeing life from God's point of view. He knows his story and he has developed eyes to see and ears to hear God's love in challenging situations. He has lived the beautiful combination of time, experience, prayer, and reflection. He can humbly share his experiences when appropriate. He is a wound, warfare and masculine journey expert. He knows his false self and has experienced healing. He knows that having regrets which have been dealt with and healed vs having regrets that define you are very different things. He is a continuous learner and knows that mystery is God's invitation to intimacy. Prov 25:2; Lk 11:9; Jer 29:11-13; etc.

3. He is courageous.

(Joshua 1:9) (Nothing to Hide, Prove or Fear)

He is courageous enough to pursue another man with an open heart and then is willing to wade into the deep waters of his heart and life. He does so with great gentleness that is borne from the quiet strength found in kindness. His presence and his encouragement are just as important (if not more) than his wisdom. He brings a strong but peaceful presence. He is a "blesser" who looks for ways to validate and initiate. He is skilled at spiritual warfare and just as skilled at sitting quietly in the back.

4. He is humble.

(Prov 15:33). (Oriented to who he is, where he is and the good that God is up to in his life)

Regardless of his achievements and successes earlier in life he is willing to be curious, to ask good questions, to listen intently and to invite God into every conversation. He becomes a messenger and guide for the leading of Jesus and the Holy Spirit. He exhibits a beautiful combination of great listening and appropriate story sharing. He enjoys making time for others, giving care and loving others well. He is a Spiritual Medic, a Spiritual Guide for the man entrusted to him. He is excited about Fathering, investing deeply in the heart that is in front of him.

5. His presence brings light into darkness.

(More Life, More Love and More Freedom)

He is an encourager and practitioner of the way of abundance that Jesus offers. He can encourage because he, himself, has experienced the More that Jesus offers and can share his experiences without bringing the spotlight upon himself. He is a practitioner because he is still a “customer”, still receiving More from Jesus. More healing, more training.

The Journey of an Elder-Sage

FROM

- Focusing on the physical realm
- Having an ever changing, always bigger goal ...
- I am the main character in the center of the smaller story of my life
- Using people to accomplish a task (Productive)
- Solving problems (Transactional)
- Getting from A to B as fast as possible
- Being independent and controlling
- Avoiding pain and conflict
- Broad influence (Many)
- Doing (Action/head/hands)
- Past and future focused
- Needing answers and clarity, certainty, and control
- Brashness—always talking
- Focus on activity
- Unsettled
- Symbolized by a Sword

TO

- Focusing on the spiritual realm
- Having one True North, one true focus—Jesus
- I have an important role in a much Larger Story
- Using a task to grow people (Fruitful)
- Building relationships (Relational)
- Enjoying the journey—stopping to smell the roses
- Being vulnerable and seeking Redemptive Friendships
- Stepping gently and willingly into pain and conflict
- Deep influence (Few)
- Being (Settled/Heart)
- Being in the present
- Being comfortable with mystery and ambiguity. Walking by faith with hope.
- Humility—ready to listen
- Focus on impact
- Settled
- Symbolized by a Staff

How this works

This workbook is designed to be used in small groups of men. There are four video sessions to engage in together. This workbook has quotes from the session that are important to emphasize, places to stop the video in order to discuss and ask/answer questions, and discussion questions designed to reinforce important ideas. The videos are approximately 30 minutes long, allowing time for discussion questions, each gathering should last around 60-90 minutes depending on the depth of the group discussion.

Who can benefit

This series is for older men, men in the Elder-Sage stage of life, to help them realize that they still have value and a purpose. Helping men realize that they can partner with God, and other men, to be a powerful force for building godly men to change the face and direction of our culture. In the spirit of full disclosure: we at Zoweh are recruiting! If your heart is moved by the prospect of this initiative, go online and apply to join the elder-sage initiative at www.zoweh.org/eldersage.

Also, younger men can utilize this workbook to see what's available to them, as they walk on their journey with the living God. Like life, you don't have to do this alone, it's not meant to be done that way. There are older men available to guide and help you navigate along the way.

Pastors, church leaders and leaders of men's ministry can utilize this workbook and video series to build redemptive brotherhood and communities within their organizations. How much more will your community gain when the men in your community are living the abundant life, in an intimate relationship with the Holy Trinity, oriented, with nothing to hide, nothing to prove and nothing to fear.

Elder-sage guides should use this workbook as part of the training of their Elder-Sage apprentices. This is an excellent vehicle for getting to know your apprentices, to learn about their walk with God, the healing they have received and to engage with practical methods of deployment at both Zoweh events and within their own communities.

Video #1

The State of Masculinity

In this session we discuss bestowing masculinity from one generation to another. We'll take a look at how we, as a society, got to this point. Come join the discussion about possible solutions, and how we can play a role in restoring generational masculinity in a godly way.

Because masculinity is bestowed by masculinity, what if there were older men that could step in and play their part and enter into the stories of younger men and help them on their journeys of masculinity?

–Michael Thompson

Kids in my generation didn't have role models to see emotional involvement and real fathering happening, so this isolation thing (if it's to be, it's up to me) is huge.

–Jim Chenet

We have a great crisis, and it's across racial lines, ethnicity and that's males, not knowing who they are or where they're going.

–Leonard Davis

Pause at 8:30 for discussion around the following questions:

What's wrong with masculinity, what's missing?

What challenges are men facing today?

What does a fully realized masculine man look like to you?

You can get information (from the internet), but if you don't have someone to shepherd you, to walk with you, to father you in how to, you're on your own and that's just not the way we were designed.

–Michael Thompson

What the masculine journey requires is trial and error, and someone to be there to speak life into you, not just criticism.

–Michael Thompson

Hurt people hurt people. Free men, free men. And I want to be part of that.

–Barry Strickland

What would it look like to see the masculine journey recovered, redeemed through the love of God. To see men initiated and validated along their masculine journey because there is something powerful and weighty about one man's voice to say "I see you" and "you can do this" and the most important part: "I am with you.

–Michael Thompson

What if there were thousands of oriented elder-sages, men who have gotten their heart back. Who have come to experience and taste and see that the Lord is good and there is intimacy with the Father ... and would be on mission to loving men to life?

–Michael Thompson

There is a whole army of unfathered men. We need you. We need you to do the work that you know the father is taking you on so you can speak into our lives, so we have the proper orientation to speak into our families lives. So we need your wisdom desperately.

–Mark Johnson

What if older men could see that retirement isn't the end?

–Michael Thompson

End of video Questions:

When Michael says "What are the odds that you have interpreted your story correctly?" What is your first thought or reaction?

Michael says, "Men are training men, it's happening. It's just not good training!" What's an example of how you've been trained poorly or wrongly from your own life?

We had good leaders in our lives. They were present, they listened. They didn't tell you what to do, they coached you on how to make the right decision. They

were strong, kind, and compassionate. They put others first and drew out the best in you. They were tough when they needed to be, to bring out the best in us.

–Mike Glynn

Though you may not have had a leader like Mike Glynn describes, name one good leader you've had in your life. Tell the story of what made them good for your heart.

Video #2

Validation, The Enemy, and Hearing From God

Start Session 1

When I had the privilege of being validated by an elder, it meant something very valuable to me. I could feel my heart rise up and say someone has seen me, someone knows me, and they like what they see and what they know.

–Mark Haskins

Pause at 5:06 for discussion around the following questions:

Tell a story of how and when you were wounded, or how you misinterpreted something that was said to you.

Tell the story of how you were validated at some point in your life.

As an elder-sage, how do you think you are equipped to validate others?

We're in a world at war. The kingdom of light and the kingdom of darkness. There is evil about, and we're at war whether we realize it or not ... What's my small story and who I am and how does that fit into the larger story? Without understanding that war and the spiritual battles and the two kingdoms, we're diminished without even the world doing it.

–Wendel Deyo

There's a time where naivete and ignorance do not serve us at all. If those around us that are older and they are ignorant of the spiritual battle or war, the casualties are many.

–Michael Thompson

It's impossible to be that beloved son, receiving the love of God when you doubt your worth and your value and your significance.

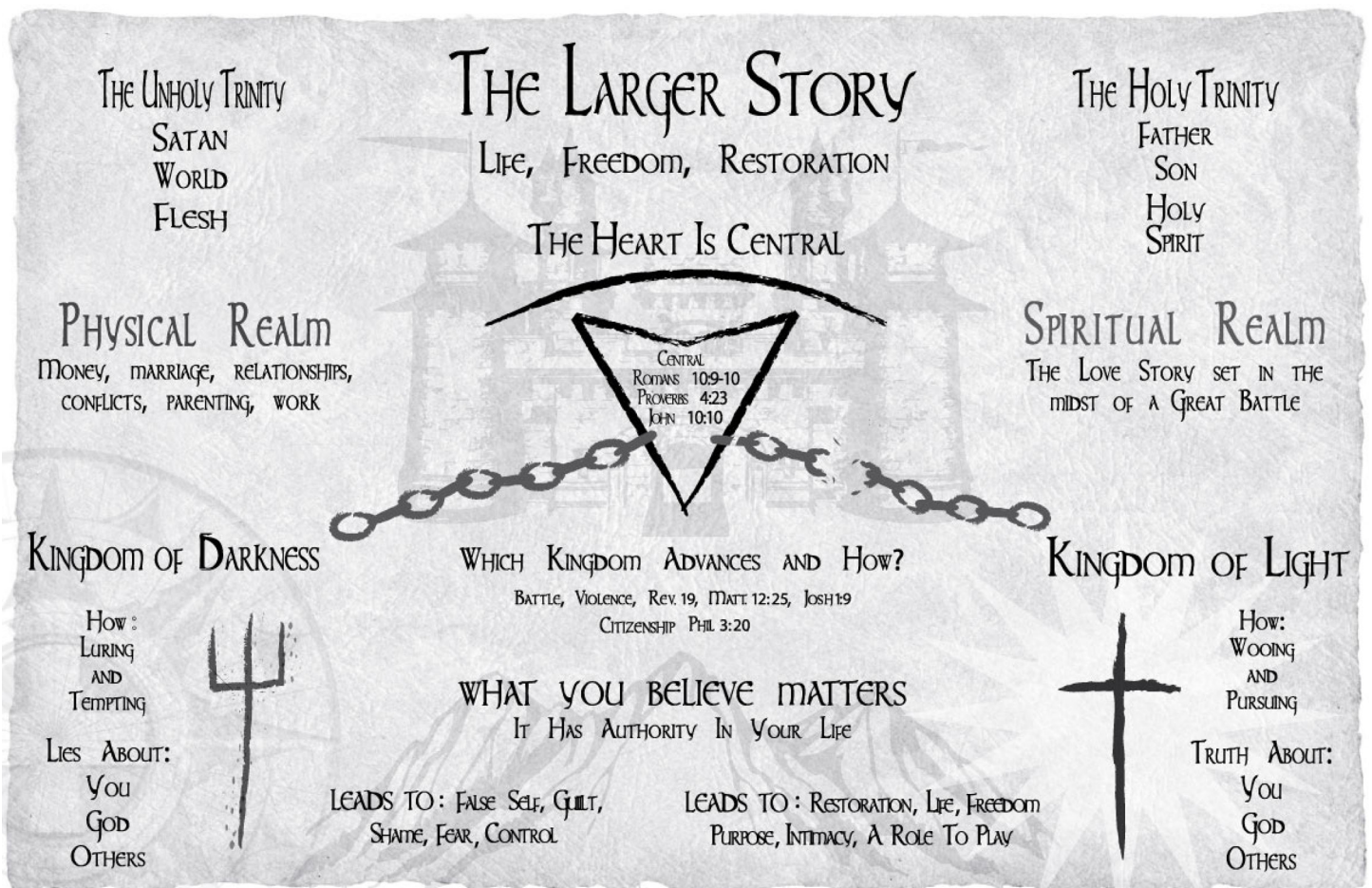
-Michael Thompson

Stop at 16:28 for Questions:

Do you believe we're in the midst of a spiritual war? Explain.

Discuss the 2 realms/2 kingdoms.

How have you seen the enemy come to disrupt/derail your masculine journey?



We now have both a worldly perspective and a holy perspective. If we could somehow share that with those on the journey, maybe we could help them not get so scarred, not get so dead-ended on certain blind alleys.

–Mark Haskins

Early on I knew God was for me and I was happy. Then I learned he's with me. It wasn't until I learned He's in me that the floodgates opened ... finding moments that it was not Mark, but He in me doing things. It was affirmation that He could help me overcome and He can help me be the beloved in reality, in the world, not just between him and me. It was affirmation that I could overcome the enemy because there was someone greater in me than the enemy.

–Mark Haskins

End of video questions:

Do you think you have a holy perspective that you could offer a younger man? What would that look like?

Tell a story about overcoming. How did that work?

Video #3

Honor Culture and Brotherhood

Validation - To make valid; substantiate; confirm. To give official sanction, confirmation, or approval to someone for what they have achieved, accomplished, endured or recovered.

Initiation - The ceremonies or rites of passage calling some up to more; any important act or event that serves to mark a passage from one stage of life to another.

Your role, privilege, and opportunity as a father, brother, or dear friend is to answer, "YES," to the questions a masculine or feminine heart is asking throughout their lifetime. God is inviting you to partner with him to love them well.

You cannot give what you do not own. You cannot offer what you do not possess.

-Michael Thompson

That's how oriented men are made. When one man bestows into another man, the good in his heart, in his life, and from his journey, so that that younger man can overcome and become.

-Michael Thompson

We're choosing to be intentional about living life together. To be vulnerable, to be connected, to enable those opportunities for validation.

-Jim Anthony

Stop at 10:48 for questions

How well do you personally receive a compliment?

How does it make you feel when you compliment someone and they don't receive it?

Tell a story about a time that you were validated.

Tell a story about a time that you validated someone.

How have you been experiencing the voice and validation of God?

I get a one, two, or three word phrase that ... grips me, grips me in the soul. And I know that a word of truth has been spoken to me ... What happens with that word, the fruit of it, once it has arrived, is an explosion of understanding ... and it puts pieces of the puzzle of life together.

-Jim Anthony

Jesus said, they will know my voice. So we know he's talking to us. Will we listen? How do I make sure it's the right voice I'm listening to?

-Mike Glynn

We want to walk with younger men, but what do we want more? We want them to walk with God. To hear His voice and His affirmation and validation. It takes time to learn any skill. I think one of the beautiful things an elder sage does is listen. Listen to the Lord. Listen to another man.

-Michael Thompson

I think that it is true that most younger warriors, even kings, have a more difficult time listening because of all the stuff that's going on in their minds. I have found as I've aged, that the ability to truly be present to another person and truly listen from head to toe, heart to hands, that is an acquired skill. Mm-hmm. Uh, it's learned by doing it, but watching others who do it really well, which is really why we're here.

-Jim Anthony

Stop at 18:30 for questions

Tell a story about a time you heard the voice of God or a time you hoped to hear Him and didn't.

Tell a story about a time that you heard/felt God leading you.

You can have accountability and not necessarily be friends. But if we're friends, if we're teammates, if we're on this journey together, well accountability comes along for the ride.

-Michael Thompson

Division happens, judgments are made, and it's over. We're saying that this is actually part of the process, the disruption, the provoking, the misunderstandings. Honor in those spaces invite us, actually demand that, if you're going to have an honor culture, you have to have a conversation.

-Michael Thompson

End of video questions:

What does honor culture, brotherhood, mean to you?

If it were solely up to you, how would you establish a redemptive brotherhood of men?

Video #4

Come With Us

We're recruiting, and we're looking for men just like you.

-Michael Thompson

I feel like God made me for this and God positioned me for this.

-Jim McCauley

If you have a pulse, you have a purpose.

-Jim Chenet

Part of the problem with masculinity is fatherlessness, uninitiated, unvalidated, untrained men. What if there were men who could father hearts to the Father?

-Michael Thompson

What if we could deploy elder-sages into the space where they could meet with kings and help them become good kings? What if we could meet with warriors and help them become good warriors? What if we could enter into the masculine journey from the backside where the qualifications are enormous because of experience and wisdom?

-Michael Thompson

There's a difference between success and significance and that difference is eternity. If it isn't eternal, it isn't significant, regardless of how successful you are.

-Wendel Deyo

I want to finish strong. I want to finish well. I think the elder-sage initiative gives me the opportunity to invest myself, to give back a little bit.

-Bill Weaver

End of video questions:

For Those New to Zoweh or ES Initiative:

You've been through all 4 videos. You've heard men say that they feel God has prepared them, or even called them to the elder-sage initiative. How is God moving in your heart about the elder-sage initiative?

What does it mean to you to be re-deployed rather than retired? If you're a younger man, how would it feel for you to be "put on the sidelines"?

When you think about leaving a legacy, what comes to mind? What kind of legacy do you want to leave?

For Those Currently in the Initiative (choose the questions that most pertain to your group):

You've been through all 4 videos. You've heard men say that they feel God has prepared them, or even called them to the elder-sage initiative.

What does it mean to you to be re-deployed rather than retired?

Why do you think God led you to join the ES Initiative?

How is God moving in your heart about the elder-sage initiative?

How is God challenging you to "More"?

What would you say to someone who is considering the ES "Brotherhood"?

What is the most significant thing you have realized about yourself through the ES process?

What does it mean to you to "father hearts to the Father"?

Are you currently deployed helping other men? If so, how? What is your gifting—one on one, small groups, larger groups? What age group of men are you most interested in guiding (kings, warriors, explorers, boys)?

When you think about leaving a legacy, what comes to mind? What kind of legacy do you want to leave?