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Manicured Male-hood

Dr. T. D. Worthington

The American Psychological Association recently said that traditional masculinity, is generally harmful to society. After all, guys like to shoot guns and drive trucks. What? They also indicate that being a real man is associated with sexual harassment and being a bully. Of course, most liberals agree, therefore they assume that all real men are unstable and therefore should not be allowed to be around sharp objects. Good grief! And think about it, that's what they want for our little boys.

Now, I know there are some scumball males out there; brutes and bullies who use their strength and power to hurt others. These guys are not men, they are males with a problem, and God's people, just *like God Himself*, will judge and confront such violence and abuse. But I miss the days when men wore pants. A few years back the pant maker Dockers published something they called a Man-ifesto.

The advertisement read as follows:

Once upon a time, men wore the pants, and wore them well. Women rarely had to open doors, and little old ladies never crossed the street alone. Men took charge because that's what they did. But somewhere along the way, the world decided it no longer needed men. Disco by disco, latte by foamy nonfat latte, men were stripped of their khakis and left stranded on the road between boyhood and androgyny. (half man-half woman)

The Man-ifesto continued,

But today, there are questions our genderless society has no answers for. The world sits idly by, and cities crumble, children misbehave, and those little old ladies remain on one side of the street. For the first time since bad guys, we need heroes. We need grown-ups. We need men to put down the plastic fork, step away from the salad bar, and

untie the world from the tracks of complacency. It's time to get your hands dirty. It's time to answer the call of manhood. It's time (Dockers said) to wear the pants.

Whether Dockers makes good pants or not, I don't know. I also realize their main goal was to sell pants, not fix manhood. But they were right. Cities crumble without men living as men. Families fall apart without men living as men. We need heroes that don't beat up those they swore to protect, and heroes who are willing to take off their cupid pajamas, put down their frothy drinks, and act more like John Wayne; the very thing our sexless society is trying to make us all feel guilty about.

Too often we swing from decrying chauvinism and abuse, to producing a society of plastic manicured males who don't even like to identify as men. When our children look at men today, the kind in television shows, in many homes, and in

many classrooms, what do they see? What will men be like tomorrow? I shudder to think!!

The Days of a Manicured Male-hood Is Upon Us.

I realize that many of my readers are younger and are immunized from seeing what I see, but I am shocked at how many men act like women. Men who use lispy sentences, light gestures, soft mannerisms, and then dress up in their knickers like a four-year-old. Then they proudly display their manicured nails and shaved legs in front of our children. No hiding it. No shame. No apologizing. This perversion of masculinity is sickening to me. This may be male-hood, but it is not man-hood.

Instead, our society celebrates what the Apostle Paul calls *“soft men”* (Greek *malakoi*), *“effeminate”*; a group that will not enter the kingdom of God (*I Corinthians 6:9*). Of course, the politically correct LGBTQ-XYZ community doesn't like what the Bible has to say about it. They distress over this shall-not-inherit-the-kingdom version of manliness to the degree that they can change the Bible to make it more acceptable to Pastor Sissy Pants. But as much as they protest it as hate speech, those who actively embrace the effeminate lifestyle are not Scripturally cauterized as the children of God, and it is unloving not to say so.

While men who brutalize and manipulate represent one form of perversion, men who sit passive, complacent, spiritually and emotionally frail, represent another. So also do men who rebel against their sex by acting like women. And

too many classrooms that celebrate this perversion act as a place to confuse the little boys (and girls) of today. Paul commands all men, *“Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit (act like) you like men, be strong.”*

I Corinthians 16:13

Strong men are gentle. But they are not soft, fragile, weak, or effeminate. They do not faint in the day of adversity. They dress for war every day against forces of evil, because they know every day is a battle. These are men who charge against enemy gates, leading from the front, and refusing to take cover behind their wives and children like the Muslim cowards. They lead. They protect. They initiate. They love. They sacrifice. They work. They worship. *They are men.*

I Long for the Days When Men Killed the Dragons.

I long for the days when men didn't sit back and wait for their wives to confront the enemy. Godly men have a sword, but use it against the dragon, not the princess in the castle. They are meek and mild to those God calls them to protect, but dangerous to the kingdom of darkness. They live for the glory of God. They mount their horse, gird up their loins, and march with courage: *“And in thy majesty ride prosperously because of truth and meekness and righteousness; and thy right hand shall teach thee terrible things”* (Psalm 45:4). And their great and powerful commander, instead of handing them sweet platitudes to hurl at the enemy, the Bible says:



“He teacheth my hands to war; so that a bow of steel is broken by mine arms.” II Samuel 22:35

YES, I Long for the Days When Men Killed the Dragons.

These men are like Moses, not Pharaoh. They do not lord their power in hopes of cowardly self-preservation. They stand against an empire, but they stand with the Lord of all empires, calling for tyrants to heed the God of heaven and earth. They are assertive, and yet they comprise the meekest men on the planet. They make unpopular decisions, meet regularly with their God, and constantly seek for, ***“what saith the Lord.”***

They are men like David, not Saul. They do not hide when duty calls. They gladly go into battle, when others will not. They kill tens of thousands of sins, and fight a more fearful enemy than Goliath ever was. They dress in armor provided by God Himself (***Ephesians 6:13***). They know much about warfare and yet can testify that it is God’s gentleness that makes them great ***“Thou hast also given me the shield of thy salvation: and thy gentleness hath made me great (II Samuel 22:36).***

These are battle-tested, hardened men, yet they may give themselves to things such as poetry. They can fight the enemy until blood covers their body; but they can come home and quietly play the harp. And should they ever shirk their duty and do wickedly, they repent before God and trust in His mercy and steadfast love to forgive and restore them. Such men are like Jesus. By that I mean the real Jesus, not the world’s

smiley, flowy-haired, manicured, soft-serve Jesus. The Jesus of the Bible is the King of kings and the Lord of Lords, who will return with a sword in His mouth and heaven’s army in His wake. He is the thrice holy man of war, the great redeemer, the sinner’s friend, who calls all to repentance, faith, and obedience. Vengeance is His; He will repay, and that is a promise.

And yet, this same Jesus also calls little children to Himself. He washes the disciples’ feet. He speaks gracious words to the oppressed, champions the widow’s cause, and calls the contrite to come near. A bruised reed He does not break, and a faintly burning wick He does not snuff. Tough, yet tender.

Satan hates this kind of biblical masculinity. He pressures men like never before to apologize for being what God has made them to be. He hands him effeminacy, passivity, and pornography. He calls it for the good of society as he sends the Delilah of feminism to strip man of his passion, ambition, and strength. Satan laughs at men who ache inside, knowing something inside has died, but not knowing what, as they watch a movie like True Grit or Braveheart.

It is hard for the modern male to understand the words of William Wallace: ***“Every man dies, but not every man truly lives.”*** Lord, please, if I have to go into battle let me follow a man. A man like Lieutenant Colonel Hal Moore (*in the movie We Were Soldiers*) who said:

“I can’t promise you that I will bring you all home alive. But this I swear, before you and before

Almighty God, that when we go into battle, I will be the first to set foot on the field, and I will be the last to step off, and I will leave no one behind. Dead or alive, we will all come home together. So, help me, God.”

I am not endorsing movies, and I realize that some may have questionable content, I am just saying real men realize that something is dying in this ***manicured male-hood*** that exist today. Satan hates it that God made both male and female, because we are created different but equal, to do God’s specialized work while meeting the specialized needs of each other. Pink for the little girls, blue for the little boys, and mix them together you have the color of royalty.

Men, I am calling to all men of God, let’s show the world what a man is supposed to be: gentle yet strong, holy compassion and holy aggression. In a word, to be like Christ. And then let’s teach our sons to follow in our footsteps and to escape from the trap of a manicured male-hood—while teaching our daughters even as they are young, what to look for in a husband.

Oh, how I long for the days when men, real men, wore the pants and killed the dragons.



Dr. Worthington has been in the ministry for over forty years and serves as President of Pathway Ministries and Christian Bible College.



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As we celebrate the arrival of a new year, we cannot help but wonder what might be in store for us. The moral decline of our nation has spiraled downward at an alarming rate. The global economic challenge brought on by the pandemic of Covid-19 has left few untouched by its spiraling tentacles. Many of our leaders in Washington seem to be far out of touch with the common man on the street. As if this were not reason enough for concern, we have also seen the rise of discrimination against Christians. Every year it seems

as if we must fight more and more with those that conspire against us. Doubtless, we have become the most discriminated against group in the nation. Finding meaning in all the confusion has been hard to do.

At *GoMix Christian Radio*, as with most ministry-related organizations, we have faced our own share of challenges. Cutting expenses and reassessing future projects has become a part of everyday life. As a non-profit organization, we have fewer earthly resources to call upon. We don't operate on the basis of wealthy investors or with great cash reserves. We operate by faith, and thus it should be.

So, for the New Year we shall endeavor with great zeal to clearly define our goals, and the outcomes we believe our Lord would have us to achieve. We shall identify

our core and non-core activities, assigning priorities as needed. We shall build our partner relationships while growing our dependence upon the Lord.

Just as we have been doing since 1998, we shall define our boundaries by the power of our Lord and by the faithfulness of His people. We will not define our boundaries by the walls that seek to contain us. Thank you for your continued prayerful support.



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It's Not Over, Is It?

Ok, yes, we know... Christmas is officially over. But why should that keep us from continuing the celebration? Maybe you've got your decorations from the holiday season already put back in the box. If not, chances are, they will be within the next week or so. And yes, we also understand, even if you'd like to keep them up, you might not be the favorite of the town if you keep your Christmas lights up year-round. Regardless of whether or not the celebration continues on the outside, it should always continue in our hearts.

During the Christmas season, it seems people are always a little kinder, a little more giving, and a little more willing to reach out and help others in need. As Christians, shouldn't we continue to be all of those things just as much the rest of the year, too? There are many non-Christians that seem to have no problem reaching out this time of year to help their fellow man. Shouldn't we be all the more

willing to do so? After all, Christ has done so much for us!

So now we sit back and relax a bit since the rush is over. The parties are over and done with for now, decorations and wrapping paper are cleaned up (or hopefully getting there), and life is getting back to normal - but don't let it get too normal. Remember God's Gift to you. Remember the sacrifice Jesus had to make to leave Heaven and all its splendor to walk this sin-cursed world for us. Remember the cross and how He died and rose again to set us free. Remember the promise of Heaven He freely gives to those who will accept His gift.

Remember... and don't forget as life goes on. Be a light so that others might see!



Busy Blessing Others

Mrs. Sherry Worthington

Whew! 2020 is finally over. As I looked back over the year, I had a sense of relief. I am not sure why. We do not know what 2021 holds. I only hope it will be better. My thoughts of 2020 go to COVID-19 and the havoc it has caused in our homes, our churches, our businesses, and our country. I think of the rioting in the streets and the controversy over the election. It bothers me that many of our leaders do not hold the truth as paramount. It depresses me that evil is triumphant in many cases, at least temporarily.

However, I began to ponder over things as I often do. When I get still and really start thinking inwardly, I see things more clearly. The Holy Spirit began to speak to me.

I realized I have a choice. I can concentrate on the bad, or I can look for the good. I am blessed beyond measure. I have a husband who cherishes me. I have a family that loves and cares for me. There is nothing they would not do for me. I work in a place that honors God, the staff members love each other, and we work well as a team. The

things going on around us cannot keep us from loving each other.

Our school was able to bless some people. We have an annual mission trip to Sutton's Nursing Home. We usually go to the nursing home and sing songs and visit with each resident. We could not go in person this year due to COVID, so we came up with a plan. We could not let them down. About half of the residents do not have a family that takes care of them. We have the privilege of giving gifts to the individuals there. Our

families at the academy adopted these individuals and supplied them with the items on their wish lists. We also gave gifts to the other residents as well. We sent them a video of the children singing and wishing them a Merry Christmas. We still brought joy. The world's circumstances did not stop us from spreading joy.

We have a family in our school that is struggling. Our school reached out and touched their lives. Three churches in our community got involved and sent gift cards, food, and cash. A local business sent a care package for the family. We all pulled together and gave this family a Christmas they will never forget. COVID did not stop us from giving to the less fortunate.

When we look around this world, we must realize something. We have a choice. We can continue to love, to spread joy, and to give to others, or we can fret and let depression stop us from showing Christ to the world. We must make

our circle better, and in so doing, we must widen our circle a little bit at a time. We can reach the world one person at a time.

As a Christian, we have an awesome responsibility. The world really doesn't know what a Christian is. Many people tend to think that a Christian is someone who believes there is a God and goes to church once in a while. I do believe when the lost world sees people who claim to be Christians, they think, "I am just as good as he is. What makes him special?"

My husband and I were shopping for the nursing home residents this weekend, and something happened that broke my heart. This woman had her two sons with her. The whole time she was in the store she was yelling at her oldest son to "be quiet", "wait a minute", and "shut up." This went on for a good hour. He was probably about three years old. I never heard him say a word. He may have been talking nonstop, but I did not hear him. I

know kids can do that, but I felt so sorry for him. I wanted so badly to tell the woman to be quiet and leave him alone. My heart just broke for him. When she went to the check-out lane, I saw her. She turned my direction and tears welled up inside me. She wore a shirt that had her church name on it, and it also said, "Jesus is the Answer." I knew Jesus' heart was breaking. I could feel His tears as He wept over the testimony of this woman. Why should anyone in that store believe that Christianity makes a person different? How many people did she convince that day that Jesus was not the answer?

We must take our responsibility seriously. We must understand that people are looking to us to see Christ. In order to make our circle bigger, we must start at home. Our children must see Jesus in us. Then we can widen our circle to our friends and our workplace. If we don't show Jesus to those closest to us, how are we going to show Jesus to the world?

There is a lost and dying world out there that sees no hope. Can you imagine how hopeless we would be without Christ? Let's make sharing Christ our New Year's resolution. Let's make a difference by showing the world the true definition of Christianity. Let others see Christ in us. Maybe they will want to know our Jesus. We can make a difference!



Mrs. Worthington has five children and twelve grandchildren. She serves as Principal of Pathway Christian Academy in Goldsboro.

Faith & Trust

Dr. Glenn Mills



“For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.”

I John 5:4

I truly believe with all my heart that every word in the Bible is there for a purpose and a reason. Every word is important and is a part of God’s plan for us. One day while reading God’s Word, I took note of something I felt I needed to further study; the words Faith and Trust.

Many times people use faith and trust to mean the same thing. My study soon revealed they are not the same in meaning or purpose. If that were the case, God would have only used one word, so there has to be some type of difference between them. Now, while faith and trust do carry different meanings, they still are dependent on each other to fulfill their purpose.

Let’s begin with faith. The Bible says in **Romans 10:17**, *“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the*

word of God.” Most often the word faith is used in the form of a noun and is based on the fact of knowing. It is for this reason the Scriptures encourage us to study, read, and meditate thus gathering more information that builds our faith. No one has faith in Jesus or God without first receiving some type of information about them.

The Bible states in **Hebrews 11:6**, *“But without faith it is impossible to please him...”* We cannot please God without first knowing who He is and what pleases Him and doesn’t please Him.

For example, let’s consider a man who has begun dating. He wants to please this new girl that he really likes, so he sends her an arrangement of red roses. Nice thought huh? But later he finds out she really loves yellow roses. While she might appreciate the red roses, the yellow ones would have really pleased her because she would have known he not only invested money in his gift, but also time to find out what she really loved.

The Scripture in **Hebrews** goes on to say, “...*for he that cometh to God must believe (know) that he is (exists)...*” Again, it is the gathering of information based on truth that builds our faith and pleases God. Jesus said all things are possible to them that believe. We don’t believe anything we don’t have knowledge about. So, faith is the fact of knowing the things God has made available to us. Jesus even gave us the Holy Spirit as our Teacher to help us grow in wisdom, knowledge, and understanding, which builds our faith.

Now, let’s look at trust. In the Scriptures, trust is used in verb form and implies the act of doing. It is putting into action our faith. Consider **Romans 1:17**, “*For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith (knowing) to faith (knowledge): as it is written, The just shall live (act of doing based upon) by faith (fact of knowing).*”

There are a lot of people who know a lot about God, but they have nothing to do with Him. They have faith that He exists, but they don’t trust Him to be their God. Many Believers have faith in who Jesus is and what He has done, but they don’t trust Him to do anything for them. Therefore faith (*knowledge of spiritual things*) without works (*the action of trust*) is dead.

Please allow me to share the story of Charles Blondin, a tightrope walker in 1859. Blondin was best known for his daring stunt of walking a 1,100 footlong tightrope across Niagara Falls several times. Crowds came out by the thousands to see the event. Over several weeks they watched Blondin walk forward and backward across the rope. He took a picture with a box camera half way across on the rope. He crossed blindfolded, did backflips, pushed a wheelbarrow across, and even cooked an omelet during one trip crossing the Niagara Falls. The people’s FAITH grew in Blondin. They knew his talent was great and his ability to walk the tightrope was unquestionable. But in August 1859, the crowd was horrified to see Blondin coming across the rope with his manager, Harry Colcord, on his back. In that moment, Blondin and Colcord became one as he walked that tightrope. They successfully crossed. The moral of this true story is this; while the crowds had Faith in Blondin to walk the rope across Niagara Falls, only Colcord had Trust that Blondin could carry him also. Colcord had faith (*knowledge of Blondin’s ability*) and trust (*act of allowing Blondin to carry him*).



It is extremely important to have faith and increase it by learning more of God’s Word as often as possible. But it is equally important that we act upon what we already know about God’s Word, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.

Jesus said in **Matthew 16:24**, “*Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me (decision based on faith), let him deny (action of trust) himself, take up (action of trust) his cross, and follow (action of trust) me.*”

I pray this message will help you in your walk with Jesus. He has so much in store for each of us. The Holy Spirit is eager to teach us greater things to build our faith. He will also show us how to put it into action daily. In closing, I believe **James 1:22** says it best, “*But be ye doers (trust) of the Word (faith), and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.*”



Dr. Glenn Mills is a long time supporter of GoMix Christian Radio and a full-time Evangelist with the Open Arms Evangelistic Ministry.

And Finally...



New Year's Day Plans...

Each year on New Year's Day, we write a brief family letter that recaps some of the major events that happened in our lives over the past year. We also include something that each of us hopes for the year to come and any big dreams we hope will come true. As my kids have gotten older, we now also include a place they would like to go, something they would like to learn, and a way they hope to help others in the coming year. We will also take some time to read the letters from previous years and enjoy the precious memories we have made together.

F. N.

Sometimes the days leading up to and following Christmas can be a whirlwind of activities and gatherings. Everything is always so rushed. I enjoy New Year's Day because it feels like it's finally a time to stop and take it all in. The day is usually more laid-back than Christmas Day. We might cook a pot of black-eyed peas and just sit around relaxing. Sometimes we do a few odds and ends around the house like clean up a little from Christmas, do a little yard-work, or just watch a movie together. Either way, it's a nice day to just unwind from the rush and excitement of Christmas.

S. S.

My sister and I are very close, even though she lives out of state. She recently had her first baby and because of COVID-19, I haven't been able to see them yet. It may seem silly, but we are planning a video

watch party with each other through the computer. We're both going to have popcorn and watch the same movie while we enjoy each other's company through a video call.

D. L.

On New Year's Day, we usually drive around and see extended family and friends that we may not have had a chance to see at Christmas. This year may be a little different with the virus going around, but hopefully we can at least call all of the ones on the list and make sure they know they are thought about.

M. D.

“Ready For Spring”

We'd like your help for an upcoming edition of “And Finally...”

Write to us in 150 words or less and tell us if you're ready for spring and what you're looking forward to.

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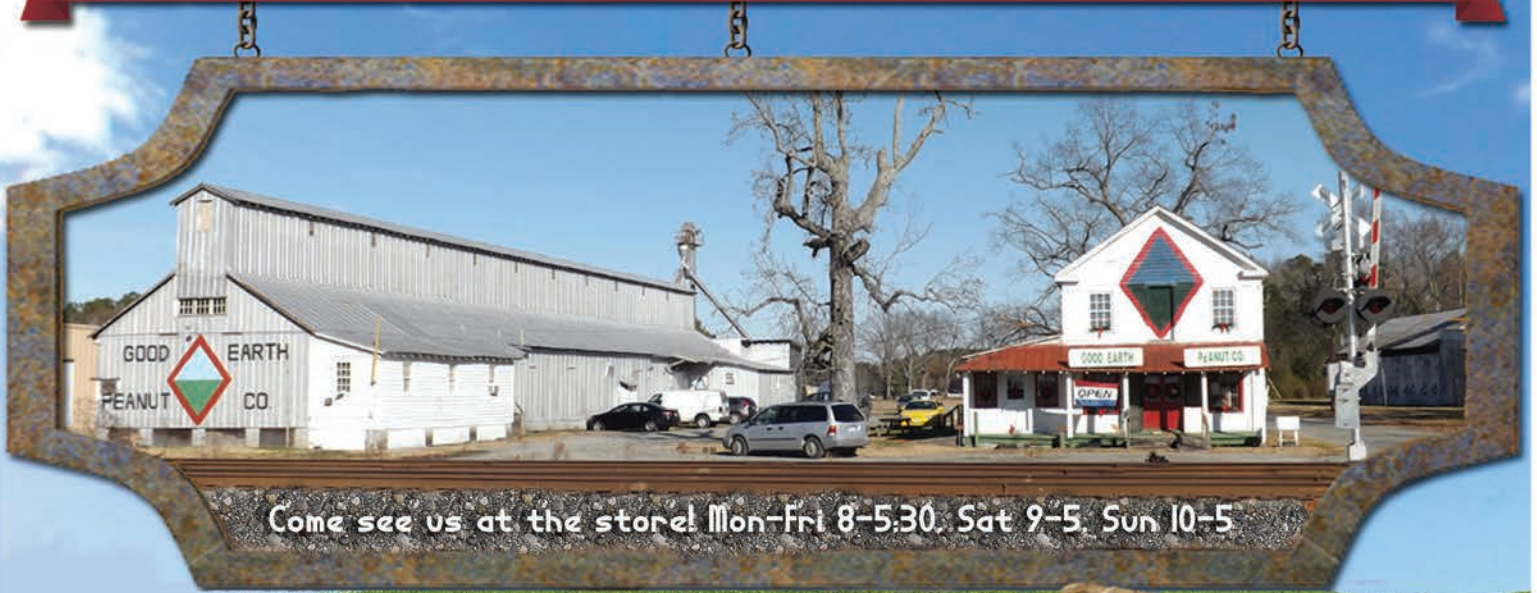


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