

How to Form a Men's Group Ministry in your Church

1. Get two or more interested men together to set an initial meeting.
 - 1) Gain Head Pastor's support and input
 - 2) Recruit men in congregation to discuss idea and structure
 - 3) Invite speaker from Presbytery or other Men's group to share success stories
2. Initial meeting outline to form Men's Group
 - 1) Agree on purpose for group (Topics, activities, devotions, bible studies, etc.)
 - 2) Make list of possible men to recruit and assign contact method
 - 3) Determine Calendar (Set frequency of meetings, content & events)
 - 4) Set up leadership of group (Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer, Technology Communications)
3. Ideas and programs for Men's Groups:
 - 1) Helping Hand Ministry – doing projects in local community to help people in need
 - 2) Fun Men's activities
 - i. Golf outing
 - ii. Fishing trip
 - iii. Visit to museum like the Yankee museum
 - iv. Visit to ballgame (Detroit Tigers)
 - v. Attend Whalers hockey game or Toledo Mud Hens game
 - vi. Dinner at restaurant
 - vii. Make your own list
 - 3) Weekly morning breakfast gathering
 - 4) Joseph Program – offer to help any member in congregation to do repairs and handyman type of work for Seniors or widow/widowers
 - 5) Annual Retreat – fun, fellowship and inspirational speaker
4. Attend Presbytery Men's Advent Breakfast in December each year.
5. Men's discussion topics:
 - 1) How to be a great Dad/husband
 - 2) How to handle finances when out of work
 - 3) Keeping physically fit
 - 4) What does Christ think of men and their role in life?
 - 5) Ask for ideas in your own congregation
 - 6) Select book for discussion like **The Man in the Mirror**
6. Develop email list so can communicate all Men's Group activities

7. Resources:

1) Websites:

- i. greatdads.org
- ii. pcusa.org/men
- iii. pcusa.org/men/publications
- iv. midatlanticmen.org

2) Books:

i. **The Dad Difference**

Josh McDowell and Norm Wakefield, Here's life Publishers, 1989

This book can help you instill moral values within your child and create a better environment for your child's sexual wholeness. Specifically, it will help you: find out when to loosen the reins and when to clamp down, know how to make up for "lost time" with your child, and explore new ways of communicating with a teen who seems to be in another world.

ii. **Fathers Who Made a Difference**

Dietrich Gruen, Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1995

If you think you've run into unique challenges as a father, take a look at what fathers faced in the Bible: defiant children, ungrateful relatives, dysfunctional blended families, sibling rivalry, and other family problems that haven't changed much over the past few thousand years. This book profiles 15 biblical fathers, one each chapter, with contemporary commentary and a detailed series of questions and Bible references that encourages individual reflection. All of them teach a lesson to today's fathers, particularly about the importance of looking to God for guidance in all things.

iii. **Fatherless America**

David Blankenhorn, Basic Books, 1995

This is the book that first spotlighted the serious problem of Father Absence in America. This explosive book goes beyond documenting the effects of fatherlessness on individual families to show how the very ideal of fatherhood is under siege--with devastating consequences for society at large. Challenging the basic assumptions of opinion leaders in academia and in the media, this book turns the prevailing wisdom about fathering on its head. After offering an analysis of five "almost-fathers," Blankenhorn explores the ideal of the Good Family Man and outlines a plan for rediscovering the goal of "a father for every child."

iv. **The Man in the Mirror: Solving the 24 Problems Men Face (Mass Market Paperback)**

Patrick Morley, Zondervan, 2002

The Man in the Mirror: Solving the 24 Problems Men Face (Mass Market Paperback)

by Patrick Morley

This powerful book invites men to take a probing look at their identities, relationships, finances, time, temperament, and integrity, and then directs them to take the first time step toward lasting change.