

Building a Godly Man
Lesson 1 – Our God is a Master Builder
www.aubeacon.com

Introduction: God knows how to build up His people

- A. The tragedy of our “educated” society is that in their pride *they deny reality!*
1. *God’s design is mocked* and rejected as harmful. A new morality is put forth and enforced. There are consequences to those who do not line up.
 2. There is nothing new in this rejection. *What are the fruits* of this new way? **(Jer 2:11-13; Prov 30:11-14)**
- B. God richly provides us with “bulwarks” *to overcome these false ways.* **(Isa 26:1-3)**
1. How can *we build godly men?* God reminded David of how He lifted him from being a shepherd to becoming a leader of God’s people! **(2 Sam 7:8-9)**
 2. How does God’s word *teach us how to build men?* What is *his personal responsibility?* What are the roles of *those in the home and in the church?*
 3. While I will use some current observations of men and some statics as illustrations, the essence of our study is a simple application of God’s word.

I. What are some common characteristics of men?

A. Men are different than women.

1. Consider the nursery rhyme:

What are little boys made of? Snips and snails, and puppy dogs tails, That's what little boys are made of. Sugar and spice and all things nice, That's what little girls are made of.

2. Men’s bodies and brains are different as well as *how they think.* God made both male and female. **(Gen 1:27)**
3. A man has tendencies that can be molded for good and bad. There are *severe consequences for those who deny reality.*

B. Some *general observations about men.*

1. A male’s orientation toward life *tends to be outward.* Consider these notes:

- **Explorative.** Every boy and every man is on a quest. He discovers his identity “out there” in the world where he senses his larger purpose and destiny lie.
- **Determined to “deliver the goods.”** A man places great stock in knowing that he has what it takes to complete the quest and accomplish the task at hand.
- **Needs to know what’s next.** Unlike a woman, he isn’t inclined to “cuddle,” to “savor” meaningful experiences, or to “linger” in the moment. Generally speaking, he’s anxious to move on to the next thing.
- **Opportunistic.** To put it another way, the male is a doer; and in the final analysis, his feelings about what he’s doing or his reasons for doing it are less important to him than the urge and the opportunity to get it done.
- **Takes chances.** To seize and make the most of his opportunities, a boy or a man must be willing to take chances. Accordingly, a propensity to run a certain degree of risk is fundamental to the male character.
- **Initiator.** All of this presumes a certain willingness and ability to “take the bull by the horns” and make things happen. It also suggests that leadership, while not necessarily an exclusively male prerogative, is nevertheless more deeply rooted in the nature of men and boys.
- **Active and aggressive.** There’s an obvious connection between initiation and active aggression. In light of this, it’s interesting to note that the male brain is two-and-a-half times larger and more vital in the center devoted to aggression and action than the female brain.
- **Competitive and dominant.** Men want the best and will expend incredible energy toward getting it.

(From Focus on the Family)

2. These tendencies are not evil but they do need to be brought under the control and guidance of God! **(Ps 37:3-5; 34:7-10; Jer 4:3-4)**

II. Building the spirit of a boy

A. His world will be molded and developed by what he hears and sees in his parents.

1. If the father is a godly leader then he will have great influence. **(Eph 6:1-4)**

2. How a son views himself and views God depends on the parents.

“You are the gateway to God the Father in your kids’ eyes. If they love, admire and trust you, they will do the same with God. But if you abandon them or refuse to engage with them, they will have to overcome many hurdles in order to trust God. Build a strong relationship with your kids and make the path to Him clear.” (Focus on Fam)

B. The best gift you can give your son is a good marriage.

1. Who did God choose for John and Jesus? **(Lk 1:6, 41-42; Mt 1:19)**

2. Above all build yourself up spiritually and be teachable! **(Judg 13:8; Ps 25:4-5)**

3. There is great security in the home when parents love and communicate with each other. Conflict and isolation bring great fear and self-doubt.

(Prov 14:1; 31:27-29)

C. Constantly be seeking wisdom as you discipline your son. **(Heb 12:7-11)**

1. Discipline is given in different ways. How are we communicating? How do we know if we have “gotten through?”

2. It takes time and effort to understand dangers before they arise! Then it takes skill to communicate that to your son.

3. We must not shy away from proper punitive discipline! This does not destroy respect but actually produces respect.

4. Parents that want to shield their children from “hard things” actually are developing in their children a weak spirit that will give them a truly hard life!

D. Do not give in to the wisdom of Satan. **(James 3:14-16)**

1. Discipline must be done in love and be selfless. Consider what a self-centered parent may say and do to their child in “discipline.” (Ex. “You are so stupid. You never will be like...”)

2. Do not openly speak in anger and slander about others. Do not tear down others in unrighteous anger before your children. **(Prov 22:24-25)**

3. Do not let the mark of your “spirituality” be in how much you criticize brethren. If so, do not be surprised when they leave the Lord. **(Ex 16:2; 17:3)**

III. Things that boys need

A. They need to be understood as acting and thinking as a boy.

1. This does not mean accepting bad behavior, but understanding with wisdom. **(Deut 6:5-9)**

2. Boys are not evil because they are aggressive, physical, direct and competitive.

3. Some “experts” want to make boys into girls and make them feel ashamed about their natural God-given abilities.

Discussion: What are some approaches to teaching that will be effective with boys?

B. Boys need to identify and connect with other men.

1. In their development in their youth then need to be with men and do things that are approved by those they respect. **(1 Cor 11:1; Heb 6:12)**

2. When I grew up my dad was the best man on earth. I loved to do things with him and to hear his praise. That respect is in my spirit today.