

A MAN AND HIS FAITH



SESSION 4: SPIRITUAL FATHERS & BROTHERS

1 CORINTHIANS 4:14-21

I am not writing these things to shame you, but to warn you as my beloved children. For even if you had ten thousand others to teach you about Christ, you have only one spiritual father. For I became your father in Christ Jesus when I preached the Good News to you. So I urge you to imitate me. That's why I have sent Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord. He will remind you of how I follow Christ Jesus, just as I teach in all the churches wherever I go. Some of you have become arrogant, thinking I will not visit you again. But I will come—and soon—if the Lord lets me, and then I'll find out whether these arrogant people just give pretentious speeches or whether they really have God's power. For the Kingdom of God is not just a lot of talk; it is living by God's power. Which do you choose? Should I come with a rod to punish you, or should I come with love and a gentle spirit?

4 PERSPECTIVES ON SPIRITUAL FATHERHOOD

1.

2.

3.

4.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I FEEL LIKE AN ORPHAN?

1.

2.

3.

FOUNDATIONS OF SPIRITUAL BROTHERHOOD:

1.

2.

3.

4.

3 PRACTICAL STEPS TO BUILD A COMMUNITY OF BROTHERS:

1.

2.

3.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

What steps do I most need to take in the pursuit of deeper relationships with men, whether brother or father?

What is the most difficult relationship for me to establish – brothers or fathers? Why is this the case?

How many men would know what your most common habitual sin is?

When was the last time you confessed your sins to someone other than God?

When was the last time you felt connected to a group of men and united around a mission (not necessarily a spiritual mission)? What are some ways you might work to create spiritual version of that now?