



When does a boy become a man? What is his official rite of passage? Men of all ages, oftentimes, choose destructive methods in their weak attempts to prove they are grown. My call and charge from God is to train men to fulfill their roles as strong Christian leaders who deeply impact their families, positively influence their marriages, and exhibit resilient leadership in their community. Satan is threatened when men become men of God. He doesn't mind if they become grown. If you call on the man inside of a man, he will come forth. I am charged with turning losers into leaders.

The IBOC Bridge to Peace has been realized through helping men turn their lives around and teaching them about becoming the men God intended them to be. In IBOC Men's Fellowship, men learn how to pursue a relationship with God (based upon Proverbs 27:17). First, however, they have to know that you see them NOT as there are, but as they CAN be. Our men have learned they were created in God's own image, and that their character, conduct and conversation should reflect the Father in all aspects of their lives. They also learn the importance of prayer, God's system of generous giving, and the importance of treating pastors, persons in authority, spouses, relatives, neighbors and friends with genuine respect and love. (1 Corinthians 11:3; Luke 6:47-49)

Godly leaders can never cease in the raising of our boys to be men. As spiritual leaders of this nation, we must all become "lost-sons minded". This process, developing a whole man from a broken child, begins when men are valued, honored and given responsibility. The main piece in this process is shedding labels that people have put upon men, made possible only through the Word of God, unconditional love, a generous dose of forgiveness, and unadulterated support. God has called men to be tough foundations. We must REFUSE to sit idly by and let men die.

Why are we losing men in the areas of personal respect for those in authority, leadership in church, submission, and simple good manners? How can we create a bridge to peace? IBOC Men's Fellowship is designed to rebuild, restore and reconcile men who have suffered life's heartaches, struggles and setbacks. We, as religious leaders, must model and teach boys and men of all ages that the LOVE of and from God conquers all! LOVE and FORGIVENESS of others is how we will survive and thrive in this world. The bible gives us an explicit message of LOVE and COMPASSION in the story of the Good Samaritan. As men of God, let us forever remember that:

The Lord meets us where we are.
The Lord binds up our wounds.
The Lord picks us up and carries us.
The Lord stays by our side until we are out of danger.

At Men's Fellowship, men young and old, affluent or in need, experience God's transforming power and build a strong Christian bond, created through the Word of God. At the core of IBOC Men's Fellowship is spiritual growth, maturity, and transformation. Men's Fellowship is where boys are guided and grown into men and where adult men learn to come to Jesus like children in accordance with God's command (Based on Titus 2:2, 6-7). Week after week, men from all walks of life return to IBOC to be filled with the truth of God's Word rather than the tarnished views of the world. IBOC men have tremendous testimonies which add dimension to the relationship they have with God and the bond they share with each other. They are accountable and allowed to exercise their faith in anointed service to others (based upon Luke 5:4, 10). During my tenure as Pastor, I have experienced God-results in my countless commitment to fellowships and training sessions that honor Him in several male initiatives, (based on Proverbs 22:6), such as:

- IBOC Friday Men's Fellowship (1990-present)
- Men trained and licensed as police officers to support and protect their neighborhood. (2006-2007)
- After the publication of my book, **May I Have Your Order, Please: How To Get What You Want From God**, massive amounts of men from Men's Fellowship came forth to pray for other men in the community. (2004)
- Universal Peace Federation - an international and interreligious network, dedicated to achieving world peace. (Ambassador of Peace Award, 2005)
- Man-UP Conference (2010)
- Reflections of an Inner City Male (Dallas ISD, 2010)
- Project MALE: Men of Distinction (Cedar Valley Community College, 2014-15)
- P.O.T. Boys Conference (Parents of Teenage Boys, 2013)
- The publication of my book, **Come Out Swinging: The Pendulum**, has offered men understanding of how to make successful comebacks from difficult life setbacks. (2014)



With God's assurance, I can stand - strong, steadfast, and unmovable. I have always and will continue to stand for men and all that true manhood in the Lord represents, which is doing things God's way. *Though the man was left half-dead, he refused to die!* As God's man, I will uphold what God expects of me! I will not ignore what our men need. I will keep believing, keep training, keep praying, keep teaching, keep praising, keep loving, keep forgiving, and keep helping to bring healing of our men forth NOW!