

# Rock Solid Men

## Group Vision & Structure:

- To grow in Godly manhood together by building our character and lives on the Rock (Matthew 7:24).
- To be bold men who sacrificially lead in love just as God does.
- Sharpening each other as iron sharpens iron (Prov 27:17) through the relational concept of Paul, Timothy, & Barnabas.
  - Paul: Godly mentor that discipled Timothy. The one that pours into the less experienced and wise.
  - Timothy: Hungry mentee that sought discipleship. The one who seeks a wiser man to pour into him.
  - Barnabas: Relatable friend and encourager to Paul in ministry. The Godly close friend that you can rely on.

## Lesson of the Day: *Bold Men Take Ownership of Their Salvation*

- **Key Passage: Philippians 2:12-13**
  - “12 Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill His good purpose.
    - The Philippians already knew that Jesus saved them
    - They also knew SALVATION was NOT of their own strength
    - Should they just be STOP there?
- *“Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed”*
  - Read Philippians 2: 5-8 and answer the following questions:
    - Who is this intended to help us have a better relationship with?
    - Breakdown Jesus’ submission to the Father. What sticks out to you?
    - **Philippians 2:5-8**
      - 5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; 7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death — even death on a cross!”
- *“Not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence”*
  - Paul encourages these believers to **take more ownership** not hinged upon his physical presence of discipling.
  - Read Matthew 16:24-25. How does this verse tie into Paul speaking on the personal ownership of one’s walk with God?
    - **Matthew 16:24-25**
      - “Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.”

- Life application:
  - Do you pursue God when you are by yourself or do you rely on others to feed you?
    - In other words: is your personal relationship with God REALLY personal?
  - How do you act when others are not around?
    - Do you stay true to your principles and character that is based on God?
  - Is there something that you need to work on?
  
- “Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling”
  - This is key to modeling our submission to the Father modeled by Jesus
  - What does it mean to continue to work out your salvation? **Note the individual ownership language here!**
  - Read Proverbs 1:7 and answer the following question:
    - What does it say about the Fear of the Lord?
      - **Proverbs 1:7**
        - “7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.”
    - Important quote to make sure there is no confusion:
      - “The fear of God is not being afraid of Him. It is being afraid of being away from Him.” – John Bevere
        - What does John Bevere mean here?
    - **Fear of the Lord = Reverent submission in humbled gratefulness. This is the only response to the saving grace given to us. A life of grateful holiness!**
  
- “For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill His good purpose.”
  - Walking in the Fear of the Lord is our responsibility – this is our input
  - The output from our input is God’s responsibility. He changes us to be the best versions of ourselves and then works through us to impact others’ lives!
    - Read Matthew 22:37-39, Matthew 6:33, and Deuteronomy 10:12-13a.
      - What did Jesus say was the purpose of man?
      - Can we fulfill this without first submitting to the Father as Jesus modeled? In other words: can we follow as we are called under our own strength?
        - **Matthew 22:37-39**
          - “And he said to them, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.’”
        - **Matthew 6:33**
          - “But seek first the Kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you”
        - **Deuteronomy 10:12-13a**
          - “And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord with all your heart and with all your soul and to observe the Lord’s commands and decrees..”
  
- Prayer requests?
  - Attempt to specifically pray over the group’s prayer requests as you go through the week until we meet back again.

- Be vulnerable in requesting prayer. Vulnerability is another way men show ownership of what is going on in their lives! Bring God into it and bring your brothers into it as well!
- Encourage more than one to pray per group. Step up men! Bold men pray.