





MINUTE WITH MIKE

Another Empty Jar

Some years ago, I placed 4 mason jars on a shelf in my office. Each had different numbers of glass beads representing the remaining weeks of influence that we had until our children turned 18. The beads have been a constant reminder that our time of critical influence passes quickly. Though I didn't know how

Tim's jar has been empty for 3 years. Zach's jar is now empty. Ben's has only 112 beads left. Hannah's has 312. It's exciting to see them move on to next steps but the empty jars remind me that two young men no longer live at home. (The good news is they still call me dad and sometimes even call when they have a question or need help.) And, I can't lose sight of the fact that two jars still have beads. Now, I get to focus more time and energy investing in Ben and Hannah.

It's challenging to make significant investments in them with the knowledge that they'll someday leave. But, that's how it's supposed to be. As our family works through this transition, I also have the joy and responsibility to pour into other young dads who need to be reminded to invest wisely. One day the jars on their shelves will be empty as well. With that in mind, we must all recognize that moments of opportunity are fleeting. How are you using the opportunities God is giving you to invest in... sons, daughters, your wife, a young man, a sports team or a small group?

Because of your partnership with Noble Warriors A YOUNG HUSBAND and father is currently being discipled on Biblical manhood, marriage and fathering. Both he and his wife have seen their parents divorce and are praying and working hard to write a new family story. Your partnership recently provided new resources for a guy that leads a

Your partnership recently provided new resources for a guy that leads a **SMALL GROUP** of men. He came to the office seeking advice on next steps for leading his group that meets weekly at a Bojangles restaurant. He left excited about using the *Master Builders Bible* to help transition his group from a book discussion to a Bible study on James.

Your Partnership Impacts...

A local **CHURCH** has invited us to their men's event this month so that we can help reinvigorate their men's ministry. They have asked me to be the guest speaker encouraging their men to connect in small groups. We will have the opportunity to help them see how small group connections are critical to real transformation!

And this month we are particularly excited about a new high impact resource! Most of you know that Noble Warriors is part of the National Coalition of Ministries to Men; a national organization whose mission is to connect the men who disciple men! Just last week, we received 100 copies of our latest project... How to Disciple Men (Short and Sweet): 45 Proven Strategies from Experts on Ministry to Men.

Through your partnership, Noble Warriors contributed to this effort along with other leaders who have dedicated their lives to helping men become more like Jesus. There are chapters on why we must disciple men, prayer, teaching and evangelism, how to launch and lead small groups, executing successful men's events, and reaching fringe groups of men. There is even a chapter about launching a ministry like Noble Warriors that I had the honor to write.



Please join us in praying for the broad impact this resource can have as it finds its way into the hands of pastors and men's ministry leaders **ACROSS THE COUNTRY**.

It takes a team effort to do the work God has given us. And I'm thankful that you stand with us!

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. Acts 1:8





KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

DENNIS RAINEY

President of FamilyLife, Author, and Co-host of FamilyLife Today Radio Program





BRYAN CARTER

Pastor of Concord Dallas and Co-Presenter/ Developer for 33 The Series

is your church BUILDING MEN?

TUESDAY, JAN 23, 2018

Register Your Team
LeadingNobleMen.org

RICHMOND, VA

Hosted at Grove Avenue Baptist Church

2018 CONFERENCE SEASON!



ROANOKE VIRGINIA

February 17th

FREDERICKSBURG VIRGINIA

March 3rd

RICHMOND VIRGINIA March 17th





Company (1952)

#PartnersMakeaDifference

wanted you to know that we are starting two groups in the Fall to address the porn issue with our men. One is using the Conquer material for our men and our Youth Pastor is starting one for his Youth guys. I wanted to thank you again for helping us find the right path and for the continued work that you are doing. You are blessing to the men of RVA!

Your prayers and support make a difference in the lives of men!

We traveled to West Point to celebrate ring weekend with **Tim** and his friends. The ceremony, banquet and 'hop' were great fun and an exciting way to celebrate this milestone.

We said goodbye to **Zach** as he began his journey with the Corps of Cadets at Virginia Tech. He's learning much about how to make his bed, dress himself and walk in a straight line. He's also connecting with some solid ministries.

Ben helped with another basketball camp between days of working on construction sites and managing the Young Boy's lawn care business, now as a sole proprietor.

Hannah is logging more babysitting hours and recently coordinated a renovation of the kids' bathroom. She's happy to have to share it with only one brother now!

Early in August, **Stacy and I** were delighted to have the whole crew together for a few days at Douthat State Park. Because we realize these moments will be fewer, we cherish them more. We're excited about the journeys our kids are on and pray for the Lord's guidance, good friends, Biblical mentors and godly spouses continuously!