



# HOMECOMING SEASON!



Capt. Tom Joyce

## MINUTE WITH MIKE

**Churches, colleges and high schools often celebrate 'Homecoming' in the Fall.**

We're planning a Homecoming of our own! **Noble Warriors** has never hosted conferences in Tidewater. For a number of years, a partner ministry, **The Gathering of Men**, has hosted **Iron Sharpens Iron conferences** in the region. Last fall, **The Gathering of Men** invited **Noble Warriors** to begin serving churches in Tidewater.

I'm excited for this 'Homecoming' of sorts. I was born and raised in Suffolk... part of the Tidewater region. My dad worked in the ship yards, I attended **William and Mary**.

**With many connections and much history in the region, hosting a Noble Man Conference in Tidewater will be a Homecoming event!**

I'm looking forward to re-connecting with some friends and churches in the area!

**Norfolk Naval Air Station** is the world's largest naval installment. Capt. (Ret.) Tom Joyce will be one of our keynote speakers for the October 13th event.

**While I don't think Capt. Joyce was ever stationed in Norfolk, he's a former Navy pilot who will feel right at home with the Tidewater crowd!**

(Tom was at the **Top Gun** school while the movie was being filmed and even flew some of the scenes in the film!) Tom finished his Naval career at **The Pentagon** and now serves as the Pastor of Discipleship, Family and Next Generation at **Immanuel Bible Church** in Springfield VA.

**Tom served our country with honor but more importantly, he and his wife serve King Jesus as a priority.** I love the fact that he and Deshua invested in and ministered to other Navy personnel and their families during his career. Hundreds of men will be blessed, challenged and encouraged by Tom's message next month in **Yorktown**.

- ▶ Pray with us that many men will have a 'Homecoming' experience with Christ on October 13th!
- ▶ Pray also that every man will go home that night having been impacted by their time with Jesus and other godly men. Those are the best homecomings!

**BIG EVENTS** often get much attention but sadly don't often deliver on what they promise. Most of the pastors and leaders I talk to measure the success of their men's ministry by event attendance. **I get it, energy, hype and attention attract men. Unfortunately, these won't sustain.**

Events of all types... conferences, retreats, men's steak-outs, fishing trips, golf outings, mission projects, big game dinners... should be part of an overall strategic plan to help men grow in faith.

**"Guys will gather for steak or road kill pizza but too often we celebrate men eating physical meat without helping them move to spiritual meat."**

I'm not bashing men's events. I love 'em and attend many. But, one of the keys to what we do through Noble Warriors is help churches and church leaders understand that events should be few in number and high in quality. **Even more important, events should be part of a strategic plan to help men walk faithfully with Jesus and lead well.**

Our **Noble Man Conferences** are designed specifically to provide an exciting catalytic event experience for men from your local church. A one day regional event featuring masculine worship, compelling speakers, practical workshops and helpful resources, gives your men an opportunity to be challenged to grow spiritually and enjoy Kingdom fellowship. That's a win, but the **BIG WIN** is when your team has a 'right next step' planned for the men.

Men often experience a significant spiritual movement at **The Noble Man**. We often hear, **"This is awesome! What's next?"** **Noble Warriors** exists to help you plan and execute a high impact plan to capture that moment!

- ▶ **Pray with us... Our desire is to see over 500 men from over 40 different churches on October 13.**
- ▶ **Pray that every church will have a plan to capture and sustain the momentum of the day for their men.**



# ANNUAL LEADERSHIP GATHERING

"Would you consider joining me and over 100 other leaders to learn what God is doing among ministries like Noble Warriors across the country?"

[WWW.NCMM.ORG/GATHERING](http://WWW.NCMM.ORG/GATHERING)

## Multiplying Ministry Across the Country - NCMM

Noble Warriors has been a member of the **National Coalition of Ministries to Men** since our inception in 2005. We've learned much from other leaders over the years and had many opportunities to share what we've learned. (I was on a call with a guy in Oregon this month who asked about our support model, our partnership strategies and our accounting system. Just this past week, I asked another NCMM member about a link to a resource he mentioned in a blog post.) **I'm thankful that NCMM connects the men who disciple men!**

I'm also honored to serve in a volunteer role as President of the NCMM. **Our Annual Leadership Gathering is October 23-25 in Nashville.** Obviously, you're invested in men's discipleship. Would you consider joining me and over 100 other leaders to learn what God is doing among ministries like Noble Warriors across the country? Visit **WWW.NCMM.ORG/GATHERING** to learn more. Or, feel free to contact me directly, [mike.young@noblewarriors.org](mailto:mike.young@noblewarriors.org).

## YOUNG ADVENTURES



**STACY** planned a birthday cruise for us and a few other couples to celebrate my 50th birthday this month. She's a bit taken aback by the fact that I'm getting so old while she remains young!

**HANNAH** enjoyed her last few weeks of summer spending time with friends and cousins. Babysitting and playing pickup basketball continue to occupy her time as well. She's not excited about school but is looking forward to basketball season.

**BEN** returned from a 4.5 week mission trip to Southeast Asia. He helped with discipleship and leadership development among church plants. He's enjoying opportunities to share his experience with others!

**ZACH** finished up his summer internship and is now back in Blacksburg for year two in the VT Corps of Cadets! He has much more freedom as a Second Year Cadet than a Plebe and is plugged in with Baptist Collegiate Ministries.

**TIM** is settling in for IBOLC at Ft. Benning. He and the other 3 guys are learning to cook for themselves, but much prefer when the older ladies at church volunteer to feed them. (They've had a few kitchen mishaps!)

