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B. Confused men create major problems.

- Maybe you've heard the phrase: hurt people hurt other people. When we are wounded or confused, we can't lead well.
- Young men who grow up without a dad in the home lead the stats in murder, rape, abuse, drunk driving...**TIME COVER**
- The central problem of every society is to define appropriate roles for its men. – Anthropologist Margaret Mead

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C. Confused men settle for less.

Psychologist Rollo May wrote this years ago: The clearest picture of an empty life is the suburban man who gets up at the same weekday hour every morning, takes the same train to the office every morning, performs the same tasks everyday, eats the same lunch at the same counter, gives the same tip, day after day. Comes home on the train every night. Spends a two week vacation at the shore with his family that he doesn't enjoy. He does this year after year until he retires at 65, and then dies soon after from heart failure, possibly brought on from repressed anger. Though I think it's likely he died from boredom.

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D. There is no lofty vision of manhood today that is compelling to men.

- 1 Corinthians 13:11 - What are the things you put away? What are the things you adopted? How did you do it?
- Take a moment on your page and write down 2-3 men in scripture - and write down a few manly traits they displayed.

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E. The Bible, I believe, has helpful insights to all of the above.

- 2 Peter 1:3 - God has given us what we need. We just need to examine it and ask the question: What is God's design for men? What is his expectation of me?
- Our time together will be grounded in scripture

#### IV. Historical Roots to Our Present Crisis in Masculinity

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A. The Industrial Revolution

Lives that were once work, farm, and home related have become increasingly sedentary...technology centered. Men and boys once worked side by side to secure and provide for the home. And now men are closer to work and further from home and relations. Men come home tired, exhausted, and their families receive the leftovers.

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B. World War II

After WWII there was a great industrial boom, suburban sprawl, the move towards cities from rural living, the death of small town America, the death of mom and pop shops. All of this repeated during the Covid pandemic. Consumerism and modernity have failed us - they never could save us. Tom Brokaw - The Greatest Generation

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C. Feminism

The Bible is profound in its elevation of women's rights. The right to vote and equal pay - these are good and right. The musical Annie Get Your Gun song - Anything You Can Do, I Can Do Better! The issue with feminism is to say: a woman can do anything a man can do, therefore, men aren't necessary. It takes men to raise a man. It takes men and women for community & maturity.

