

Promise Keepers – Discipleship Training Unleashed – Godly Sexuality

October 19, 2008

by: Ernst Bergen

Jeshua! Jeshua! Jeshua! Was the shout heard around Eagle's Nest in Steinbach this weekend. This was the battle cry of the band of brothers participating in the Promise Keepers Discipleship Training on Godly Sexuality. The Spirit was sweet in the air as we worked through the materials with Steve Masterson to restore our sexual purity and claim our birthright as men to participate in Godly Sexuality. The atmosphere was indescribable. Men from all around Manitoba, and some from as far as BC, met to work through this difficult and often neglected topic. How would I describe the weekend? The experience is difficult to translate to paper! Have you ever thought about your current spiritual state with God, where you are at right now? Have you then proceeded to ponder about where you might be spiritually in 20 years or later in your life? Have you pictured that progression from where you are now to where you will be then? Have you felt a sense of satisfaction at your progress in these ponderings? I personally have done this many times and have a certain image in my mind of my spiritual progression and ultimate destination. When I signed up for this DTU on Godly Sexuality, I had some idea of what I was in for, but not really. I had been participating in a small group of guys from Church Of The Rock for the last 6 months or more, studying and discussing the Godly Manhood DTU materials. So theoretically I had some idea or expectation of what this weekend would hold. Wow. The Spirit NEVER EVER disappoints! I can say this with honesty and sincerity: *Any man who comes to a DTU weekend with an open heart and a willing spirit will leave a completely changed man with a different outlook on life, his relationship with God and his family.* Seriously. In my musings about my spiritual progress and destination in life, I had never imagined that my relationship with God could be like what I experienced this weekend. I had no idea it could be like this. Its one of those things that you will never know until you experience it. Like trying a new unknown food that you've never tasted, you have no preconception or idea about how it could taste until someone presents it to you and you take the leap of faith and take the first bite. Only then will you fully know what that food tastes like and what the possibilities are. That's what this weekend was...the first bite of the food. Before I tasted it I had no idea it even existed. I've gone to church all my life, studied the bible and intellectually processed an incredible amount of spiritual things. Nothing, and I mean NOTHING, had ever prepared me to understand what potential my relationship with my Creator could have. Since I had never tasted the food, I had no idea what I was missing and happily went on my merry way. For some it might seem like a risk to extend themselves to this place. I assure you that while the Holy Spirit is powerful, he is also gentle and kind. He will not push you further than you can handle. Remember you are in your Fathers hands, the safest hands you could ever be held in. So how did these things actually get accomplished? During the DTU weekend we were paired up with a "cohort" group, a band of brothers to travel with. There were about 8 men in each group, one of the 8 being a life coach. While we all started out strangers, we ended up brothers by the end of the weekend. We shared our successes and our struggles with bitter tears of sorrow and sweet tears of joy. We helped lift each other up to God to claim our freedom from bondage and slavery to sexual sin! With a combination of teaching by Steve Masterson, group discussions, videos and "God Walks" for reflection, our authority and birthright in Jesus was confirmed, our chains broken and our shouts of joy heard far and wide: Jeshua! Jeshua! Jeshua! This was an unforgettable experience that will change the rest of my life. I thank the good Lord he prompted me to go and put the right people in my life to encourage me to go. All I can say to you is that I wish with all my heart the Spirit will move you to take the first bite of this new food. You'll never know what you were missing until you do, and you might even find your new most favorite food! Be blessed and may your path cross into the waiting arms of your heavenly father who is forever waiting for you to come home.

Mentoring Men To Leave No Man Behind!