

# Identity – Him The Battle for Men



by

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# About the Author

Deborah is a mother of three boys, two of whom are in the military, in the ADF and her elder son NZDF currently transferring to British Forces. She has a 7 year old granddaughter in Auckland New Zealand. Married to an ex-SAS and Rhodesian Army Corporal, Dave Bugler, his area of influence are in men becoming men in the kingdom, and the business and government mountains. Coupled with Deborah's specialist teaching of 30 years, worship and research, her desire is to see young men and women set free of the trappings of society, and the culture of self-obsession and self-gratification that is taking our children away from an early age. She has four ministries that perform as outreach under her online Deborah Monro Ministries

Deborah understands the home of violence and neglect, physical and emotional abuse with her past, and she has successfully single parented her three boys now grown, with Jesus at her side. There is no greater journey albeit challenging than being on the coal face with the LORD!

Deborah is an ardent supporter of YFC and their programme for the LOST BOYS in Australia. Her pastor Peggy Barr who she partners with in her ministry, has led intercession and Tabernacle of David worship for the prodigals for a few years now. They are coming in now as this is published.

Men and women who are awake, who are called, must arise, to disrupt the death, the silence, the apathy, and bring life and love and truth into our communities. If we do not, we have already lost the battle. Disruptive Coastal Women, another initiative of Deborah's, is taking women (with men in the home ranks) into the community to stand with the broken, hurting, to bring light and salt to the Sunshine Coast in Queensland.



Deborah Monro Bugler

Deborah Monro Ministries

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# The Genesis Man

## *Genesis 1:26-27*

And God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.".. "So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them."



## *Genesis 2...*

**2** Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

**2** By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. **3** Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

## Adam and Eve

**4** This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, when the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.

**5** Now no shrub had yet appeared on the earth and no plant had yet sprung up, for the LORD God had not sent rain on the earth and *there was no one to work the ground*, **6** but streams came up from the earth and watered the whole surface of the ground. **7** Then *the LORD God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being*.

**8** Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. **9** The LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

**10** A river watering the garden flowed from Eden; from there it was separated into four headwaters. **11** The name of the first is the Pishon; it winds through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. **12** (The gold of that land is good; aromatic resin and onyx are also there.) **13** The name of the second river is the Gihon; it winds through the entire land of Cush. **14** The name of the third river is the Tigris; it runs along the east side of Ashur. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

**15** The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. **16** And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free

to eat from any tree in the garden; <sup>17</sup> but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.”

<sup>18</sup> The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.”

<sup>19</sup> Now the LORD God had formed *out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name.* <sup>20</sup> So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals.

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. <sup>21</sup> So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man’s ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. <sup>22</sup> Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

<sup>23</sup> The man said,  
 “This is now bone of my bones  
 and flesh of my flesh;  
 she shall be called ‘woman,’  
 for she was taken out of man.”

<sup>24</sup> That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

## §

So, there are three keys here:

1. Man was created by God in His image.  
 It is important to see that God and Jesus were there in the beginning: “Let us make man in our image” – the conversation of the Holy Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the divine plurality of “us”.
2. Like God as in His image, man is also creator, he is a worker, and simply, the Word explains creation’s work took 6 days, then the LORD rested. Likewise, man works 6 days, and then he rests, as commanded by God, following by God’s example.
3. God created human beings (plural) in His image being both male and female. Also, man is not designed to be a loner, just as the Holy Triune is not. Simply, God drew woman out of Adam’s rib, next to his heart, and the closest of all human beings is the woman who partners, ‘helps’ man, leaving the family that he grew up with, to be united and cleaved to his wife. And so the story and the cycle of life is as this.



## THE IDENTITY CRISIS

Anxiety is becoming more prevalent in young men. The solution to this debilitating condition is porn and substance abuse, leading to the mistreatment of girls and women. It even reaches into the deviances of pedophilia and other sexual malpractices.

God did not intend for any of this.

He has warned we are in the days of Noah, impending judgment. The sins of mankind included not just the guys, the women and children were wiped off the face of the earth by Genesis 6, finishing two millennia of increasing debauchery. Then came another 2000 years after Noah of Abraham up until the time of Christ. We are now 2000 years on from the third period in the Bible, since Christ, and society has found its way back to Hedonistic, sadistic, Nihilistic living saturated in narcissism, sexual idolatry, lust, pretty much the unforgiveable sins mentioned in Colossians 3:5, Galatians 5:19-21.

We are warned to have no other gods, images, idols in Exodus 20, Isaiah 44, but humankind is prone to debauchery and decline, without God. He has given mankind

the keys, He has given His very own to sacrifice, and it is but a few who can discern this. Even the elect will be fooled in these days Matthew 24:24, Mark 13:22.

But the dilution of leadership in the church has not helped identity. It has all but abandoned the cause, but there are significant men of God speaking up and trumpeting the importance of the gospel. There is a very strong sense in life God has done much and He has done little, but the truth is He is faithful to do the job. He gives us strength to do it, and He gives us the focus and purpose. Often it is when we are brought to the end of ourselves, God saves us.

His cry in Isaiah 6: “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” sends an echo through the millennia to our corridors, our streets today. “Here am I! Send me!” Isaiah replies. The call to the mission field, where men get to be men, only through the gospel. The most important thing in the world, because of its truth, the everlasting perpetuation of God’s promise and His salvation for all who would have it.

Be anxious for NO THING (Philippians 4:6). God means it. He makes the man, and He reaches the man, by the way of the gospel, the good news. But intention must have action, or it just sits.

Mankind unknowingly is in the battle for his life. His life is his identity, who he is, his purpose, his reason to be. The battle is not just against powers and principalities, it is the battle for the mind with the enemy attacking our belief system and our identity from a number of directions. The LORD knows this, and He has given us so many keys, tools, to equip and guard and mature us.

***Romans 12:2-3*** *And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.*

There are many battalions in the whole army of God. In this spiritual war.

The question is how do we reach the lost ones in the sea of twisted identity?

# THE ‘PETER PAN’ SYNDROME

## MEN WHO HAVE NOT TAKEN UP THE MANTLE OF RESPONSIBILITY

Cindy McGarvie is the Managing Director of YOUTH FOR CHRIST AUSTRALIA, a mother of three boys, like myself, and she has a passionate cry for the Battle over boys failing to flourish. This is a worldwide epidemic.

Male suicide is at crisis point in Australia. It is the biggest killer of young men aged 15-24. By the age of 17, just 53% of boys are in a home with both their biological parents. Boys are more likely to substance abuse, be depressed, be violent, be enslaved in porn, be suicidal, and go to prison, than girls. On the porn stats alone, 1 in 10 viewers are under 10 years of age.

Cyber Warfare reaches children in any location even if the front door is locked and the security alarms are all on. It creeps silently into bedrooms and school playgrounds and toilets without parents even knowing.

Gender Theory has completely thrown boys many of who do not know what it means to be a man. What is being taught now in schools and as early as preschool is confusing boys from an early age as to what true male identity is. It has been thwarted and feminised and twisted into something no one can clearly define. Resulting in the ‘Peter Pan’ syndrome, boys grow up to be men with the inability to act as adults and the inability to take up their role and responsibilities to be men, husbands and fathers.

Nihilism is rife in our children, in Gen Y (millennials born 1980-1994, currently 24-39 years old) and Gen Z (1997-2012) there is an existence in these generations that life has no purpose. Hedonism is taking the lead in our current society: where pleasure or pain motivates us, and pleasure only has worth; pain or displeasure has disvalue i.e. the opposite of worth. Austrian neurologist and Holocaust survivor Viktor Frankl, links this hedonistic meaninglessness and nihilistic lack of purpose - to depression. His quote:

**“Everything can be taken from a man but one thing: the last of the human freedoms – to choose one’s attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one’s own way.”**

is a real issue of questionable truth in this time. If indeed the last of the human freedoms of choice is taken, what does man have left? Men are in danger. They have been herded, labelled and cornered. Now is the hour for readjustment, to strategize reaching our lost boys. YOUTH FOR CHRIST has a feasible and achievable means of doing this across our nation.

For more go to their website:

[www.yfc.org.au](http://www.yfc.org.au) – a worldwide Christian initiative that works with young people around the globe.

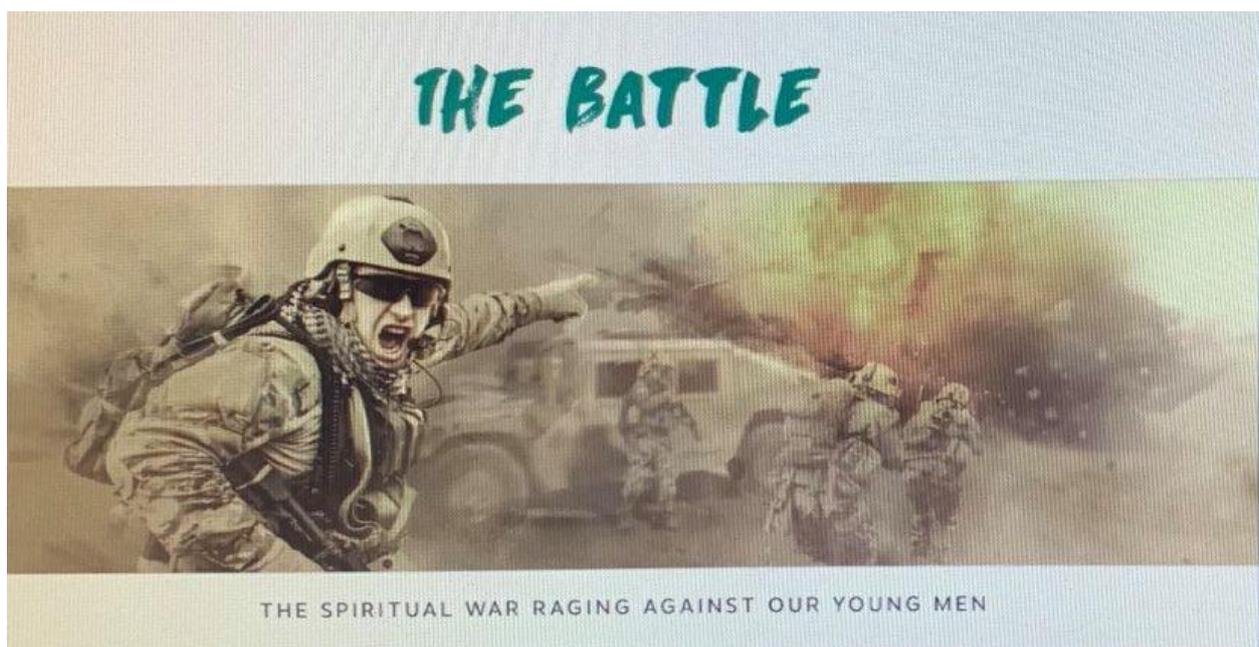
The YFC “LOST BOYS PRAYER BOOK” says about masculinity:

*Masculinity is under attack. The God-ordained role of men as the leaders and protectors of their families, homes and even society has been a target for destruction from the enemy. Those who believe in the God-given power of masculinity are on the edges of mainstream. May our society honour manhood once again! (pg 15)*

*Fatherhood is in trouble in our nation. Boys without fathers are much more likely to be depressed, to drink, to do drugs, to be suicidal, to be violent and to go to prison. In ancient biblical times, an orphan was considered someone without a father. In that measure, a significant number of our nation’s children are being raised as orphans. Only our True Father can heal our land of this devastating scourge. (p28)*

*We as believers in Christ are His body and He is the head. All of us as members of the body of Christ have specific roles and functions, therefore we should be active and not passive, fighting and not on the sidelines. We should be unified instead of separated and doing our own thing. How can we be victorious if we are not working together, if we have our eyes only on our small patch to preserve and protect? Jesus implored, “Wake up and look around. The fields are already ripe for harvest!” (Jn 4:35b) (NLT). May the church heed His voice. (pg 31)*

*There is a noted lack of wisdom in the generations of today. In an era of information overload and research at our fingertips, our boys may have much more knowledge than previous generations, however a man needs wisdom to control and implement that knowledge. We know that wisdom comes from God. Our boys and men need wisdom both in the church and in society, so that they grow to become a force for good and not for destruction. (pg 22)*



# THE BATTLE FOR MEN

There is a crisis of purpose, of conviction as having a solid belief. Feminists, in their intention for equality and self-righteousness in the face of oppression and victimisation in domestic violence, have all but eradicated the power of men by declaring “What are men even for?”. The Bible says men and women are made for each other. Guys are sensitive to man-bashing. Deconstruction of gender has progressed over the decades, but what does that mean for a fourteen-year old boy today? There is no fixed category. Many boys are fatherless, there are no mentors for them. Boys learn by example, they emulate, follow. They are misdiagnosed because society does not see boys and men as God made them, the world says it is more important to be vulnerable and sensitive.

Men have also been feminised in the church. They are not leading the way. For women, they believe it is all about identity and self: self-awareness, self-esteem, self-confidence, taking selfies. “We are in a WHO AM I? generation. The inability to connect with true conviction, to be rooted in the wrong place which is outside of ourselves, outside of our world is the problem.” – Martyn Iles.

Our ultimate hero is Jesus, the man who conquered death, who is our gateway to intimacy with our Father in heaven, who is continually cheering us on, and who will be coming back for us, and to bring peace and a mighty war.



# The Ephesians 5 Man

## *On Christian Living...*

V1-2 *Walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

V3 *There must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed...*

V4 *Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving.*

V5 *For this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person – such a person is an idolator – has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.*

V6-7 *Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be partners with them (in marriage and/or business).*

V8-10 *for you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord.*

V11 *Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.*

V12-13 *It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible – and everything that is illuminated becomes a light...*

V15-16 *Be very careful, then, how you live (walk) – not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.*

V17 *Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.*

V18 *Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.*

V19 *Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord...*

V20 *Always give thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

## *In the Christian Home...*

V21 *Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.*

V23 *The husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Saviour.*

V25 *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ love the church and gave himself up for her...*

V26-27 *Make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, to present her to himself as a radiant church (bride) without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.*

V28 *Husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.*

V33 *Each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.*

And these go hand in hand. Love, and respect.

Husbands, *love* your wives,  
even as Christ also loved the church,  
and gave himself for it;

So ought men to love their wives  
as their own bodies.

He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

For this cause shall a man leave  
his father and mother,  
and shall be joined unto his wife,  
and they two shall be

*one flesh*.

Ephesians 5:25, 28, 31 KJV

# WHAT MEN ARE (for women)

- Born to lead, to be the head and not the tail.
- Born to succeed, not to fail, and their efforts are real.
- To parent their own way, as men even if it is different from their wives. They have something uniquely special to give women don't have.
- Women to control their emotional outbursts is huge for guys. They understand that talking about issues when their girl is upset doesn't always work well for both in the couple, because it's super hard to fix a storm. But with a time out a situation can breathe, settle, and reconfigure.
- They like to know their woman is not getting frustrated with them. They are not always relationally-wired, but tend to focus on problem solving, threat and system development. For women to understand this, is very helpful.

## Men love...

- To be able to finish what they are saying!
- To be respected and affirmed, to be edified.
- To have their point of view heard, especially when he might feel strongly about his thoughts.
- To be supported enthusiastically, not begrudgingly, even when they muck it up.
- To be appreciated! Not to be taken for granted.
- To be physically touched, several times a day to maintain oxytocin, a bonding chemical, while women need less because of their own healthy present levels of oxytocin. As men are wired to compete, they need some assistance with 'connecting' moving out of their 'one track' mode of doing it, getting there, etc. (this is the ideal, and not the norm for everyone).

## Men also love...

- That their generosity is accepted, with gratitude.
- That his feelings are accepted, and that his girl affirms him, even if she might not agree with him.
- That she doesn't raise big issues when he is busy, tired or distracted.
- That she doesn't ask too many "Why" questions, as this word presents "Challenge" for men.
- That she might approach him gently. (Often he is distracted or focussed on what he is doing at that moment and often cannot commit 100% when he's doing something else.)

- Clear comms: That she doesn't just "launch" as women love to do, but that she might introduce her topic by asking him if he has time... and changing topics she prepares with: "Switching gears now, okay?"
- That his girl respects his space, his time. Which he needs. And that she is flexible with that.
- That she can apologise to him.
- That she exercises self-control around him.
- That she respects herself, and him.
- That she is interested in his day, that she checks in daily if he has any specific things he might want help with today. An intelligent girl, while offering her time is very attractive to him.
- That she might take the time to do the stuff that matters to him. He feels valued, important.
- That she smiles and greets him when he walks in the door.
- That she tries not to interrupt him. What he thinks what he has to say matters so much more if women are attentive in communication skills.
- That his girl makes eye contact with him when he is talking. Again, he feels he matters.
- That she points out character strengths to him, they also matter to him.
- That his woman is intimate with enthusiasm, that she wants to pursue him!
- That she makes him a favourite meal now and then, regularly.
- That his girl goes to him and asks him for advice.
- That she provides a quiet, calm home for him, that he can feel peace and love when he comes home. Detoxing and unwinding is very important!
- That he feels she makes him a priority in his life, even if she has seen him 10 times during the day, greet him like it's the first time!
- That she compliments him, thanks him, appreciates him for providing, or that he is looking for a way to provide, daily.
- That she purrs in his arms. He likes to know he can make her feel amazing!
- That she asks if she can be with him, even if it is working in the garage, in the garden.
- That his girl respects herself, and makes herself the best she can be for him. He will reciprocate!

What else? ...

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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“Man’s Search for Meaning”, Viktor Frankl, pub. 1946

“The LOST BOYS PRAYER BOOK”, by Cindy McGarvie pub. 2020

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[www.bootcampmilitaryfitness.com/outdoor-fitness-training-framework/training-methods-concepts/](http://www.bootcampmilitaryfitness.com/outdoor-fitness-training-framework/training-methods-concepts/)

Webinar quote with YFC Australia, Martyn Iles, MD Australian Christian Lobby, 19 September 2020

All Scripture quotations are from the King James Version, and NIV First Century Bible with Hebrew and Greek Interlinear Bible cf.



Dave and Deborah Bugler, Zimbabwean boy (ex-army) and Kiwi girl (teacher, musician, writer) live in Sunshine Coast, Queensland. Deborah has three sons, two of which are in the military, and one granddaughter. They both spent time in their early years on rural farms, lived in various countries around the world, and are passionate about their faith. Dave moves in the government and business mountains, Deborah in the education and family.

Their desire is to inspire, encourage and equip the Church for such a time as this.

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