

Classic: *serving as a standard of excellence: of recognized value* (Webster)

“That car is a classic.” “That book is a classic.” “That song is a classic.”

Like cars, books, and songs, “classics” have enduring value. When it comes to ministry to men, here is a resource you may not have used (at least recently) that is a **“classic.”**

“Men’s Fraternity”

What would get 1,200 men out of bed and to the church at 6:00 AM each week? During the late 1990s, Robert Lewis presented a weekly Bible study to his men at Fellowship Bible Church. Men from across the city came to hear him teach on issues important to men. His teaching was captured on video so others could benefit from it. This resulted in three studies called, **“Men’s Fraternity.”** These included: “The Search for Authentic Manhood,” “Winning At Work and At Home,” and “The Great Adventure.”

The **“The Search for Authentic Manhood,”** addresses the question: “What is a man?” Lewis presents a definition of “manhood” from a Biblical perspective. He also addresses wounds men experience that can affect their roles as men, and how the Bible addresses these.

“Winning at Work and At Home” addresses two areas of a man’s life that are most important to him: (1) **His work** (where he spends most of his time). What does it mean to be a believer in the workplace? How do I do that? (2) **His home.** Every man wants to be a good husband and dad, but usually doesn’t know how.

The sessions are about 50 minutes long. The content is outstanding, Biblical, and practical. Each man gets a workbook and is in a small group to process what he’s learning, with 2-3 questions. Easy to facilitate.

Who is Robert Lewis? Growing up in a non-Christian home with an alcoholic father, he poured his life into sports. He became an all-state quarterback, earning a scholarship to an SEC school. An injury ended his football career. As a college student, he came to faith in Christ. He went on to earn degrees from Talbot and Western Seminaries, and served many years as pastor of Fellowship Bible Church in Little Rock, Arkansas. He’s worked closely with Dennis Rainey of Family Life Ministries.

What’s with the name? The series includes teaching, and small group time. Early on some men in small groups commented that they felt connected with one another as they had not in years. It reminded them of when they were in the fraternity.

Has it been updated? Yes. **“33 the Series”** is an updated version of many of the principles taught in the Men’s Fraternity series. Sessions are about 30 minutes long, taught by a diverse team of three teachers. It includes a format with updated visual, music, testimonies, man on the street interviews, etc.

The teaching is available on DVD, or downloadable to tablets, phones, and computers. Authentic Manhood allows a pastor or men’s leader to teach the material yourself, if you prefer, using your own illustrations, etc. (I can tell you more about how that works.)

These series have been used with great success in churches, military bases, campus ministries, prisons, and more. **“Men’s Fraternity” is a classic.** It’s one of the best men’s studies you can offer. Or offer again. Check out this summer and consider launching it in the Fall.

Go to: www.AuthenticManhood.com