

# **PURSUING THE ADVENTURE OF AUTHENTIC MANHOOD**

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## **SESSION 3**

### **THE FIRST STEP TO AUTHENTIC MANHOOD: LOOKING BACK**

#### **I. A brief review**

#### **II. Your Manhood Plan worksheet**

#### **III. Up Close and Personal**

A. EVERYBODY has a story

B. My story

C. Moments that shaped my life:

1. Good moments

2. Noble moments

3. Missed moments

4. Hurtful moments

5. Defining moments

D. Leaving home... how?

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#### IV. Observations Looking Back

A. My story is not \_\_\_\_\_ unique \_\_\_\_\_. As a man, I am not \_\_\_\_\_ alone \_\_\_\_\_.

B. When a boy fails to “\_\_\_\_\_ connect \_\_\_\_\_” with his Dad, \_\_\_\_\_ demons \_\_\_\_\_, of one kind or another, often fill the void.

C. Many men have yet to reckon with their \_\_\_\_\_ past \_\_\_\_\_ or close out the \_\_\_\_\_ unfinished business \_\_\_\_\_.

D. Until a man \_\_\_\_\_ unpacks his past \_\_\_\_\_ and deals with the \_\_\_\_\_ themes \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ pain \_\_\_\_\_ that reside there, he can never be an authentic man.

E. You cannot become a real man without \_\_\_\_\_ help \_\_\_\_\_.

There is no such thing as a “\_\_\_\_\_ self-made man \_\_\_\_\_.”

F. For better or worse, we are all significantly shaped by the kind of \_\_\_\_\_ family life \_\_\_\_\_ we experienced.

#### Questions for Your Small Group

1. What personal assets did you leave home with because of your family life?
2. What major themes for your life did you leave home with? How have those themes shaped your life, both positively and negatively?
3. If you could change one thing about your upbringing, what would it be?

