

THE HEART OF A MAN

RESTORING THE RITE OF PASSAGE

BUILDING THE NEXT GENERATION OF MEN

The Heart of a Man: Restoring the Rite of Passage, Building the Next Generation of Men

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PREFACE

The purpose of this book is simple: To ignite a fire in the heart of every man.

INTRODUCTION

Over the last 20 years I have invested countless hours in coaching, counseling, and mentoring young boys, adolescent teens, and young men in their early to mid-twenties. I have encouraged them to keep going forward when they've failed and provided a listening ear when they've been discouraged. I've been there for them when they've walked through life's toughest challenges. But most of all I've just been there for them as I've helped them make their passage into manhood.

I am grateful and honored that these young boys and young men have shared their life with me, listened to my advice, and put into practice the counsel I've provided for them. However, I have discovered over the last couple of decades that a significant percentage of young boys and young men each and every year are ill-equipped and unprepared to successfully navigate manhood let alone accept the responsibility and role as the next generation of men in our communities.

What happened? Why do we have multiple generations of young men not equipped or prepared for manhood? With multitudes of good nonprofit organizations, governmental programs, religious programs, and individuals reaching out in our communities, how is it that we find our communities and nation in such a sad condition? I believe many have seen this coming for years, even decades.

The line has been drawn. There is no turning back. The fire must be ignited in the hearts of men. We have no choice. It is our responsibility and solemn duty as men to restore the passage into manhood that has been passed down from generation to generation of men for thousands of years. What has been lost can be restored again. What has been discarded can be renewed again. What has been destroyed can be rebuilt again. The need is great, and the solution is even greater. It will take men who will come alongside the young boys and young men in their lives. Men willing to step in and build them up and not tear them down. Men willing to prepare them and equip them for their journey into manhood. Men who are willing to carve out the old paths for the next generation and welcome them into this thing we call “The Brotherhood of Men.”

I have written *The Heart of a Man: Restoring the Rite of Passage* in order to ignite a fire in the hearts of men. To encourage men to rise up and take a stand. To fight for our legacy and fight to restore what has been lost.

*Building the Next Generation of Men,
One Rite of Passage at a Time.*