



# HOAW Newsletter

A vision received from God is verified when it is confirmed and affirmed by others. Otherwise, it is simply a dream; a balloon full of air giving the semblance of substance but having no volume whatsoever. Vision doesn't come by committee. God seeks out a person and inspires infuses that person with a picture of a preferable future. But the validity of the vision must be confirmed and affirmed by others and/or events. Otherwise, it is simply a dream...*Habakkuk 2:2-3; Proverbs 29:18; Joel 2:28; 1 John 4:1; Jeremiah 23:16; Acts 2:17*

Greg Bourgond  
June 2019

HELPING MEN LIVE LIVES OF INTEGRITY AND HONOR

## Bourgondisms

by Dr. Greg Bourgond

Over the course of my life in Christ I have come across witticisms and principles, that clarify for me God's truths as applied to our walk of faith. I will include these truths in 3 installments. This is the first...

1. Our central beliefs establish our values; our core values inform our perceptual attitudes, our worldview; our worldview conditions our motives; our motives energize our behavior; and our behavior reflects the condition and health of our heart.

...Proverbs 4:23; John 8:31-32; Hebrews 8:10; Hebrews 4:12; 1 Corinthians 4:5; Matthew 12:34-35

2. No one cares what you have to say until they observe how you live. If you live a life of integrity and authenticity (under the authority of God) people will ultimately want to hear what you have to say even if they disagree with you. Why? Because they cannot get past a life

well lived. They can argue with your stated beliefs, they can deconstruct your proclaimed faith, they can tell you your truth ends where their nose begins. But they cannot argue with a life well lived.

...1 Peter 2:12, 15; 3:15-16; James 3:13

3. Men are created for essentially three purposes: A Cause to die for, a Challenge to embrace, and loved ones to Protect. Jesus is our model for manhood; He had a Cause to die for – the atonement for and salvation of mankind. He had a Challenge to embrace – the scourge and the cross. And He had loved ones to Protect – you and me and all those who have gone before us

...1 Peter 2:21, 24; 3:18a; Leviticus 17:10-11; 1 John 2:2; Hebrews 9:12, 22

4. Obedience produces strength, disobedience produces weakness.

...Romans 5:9; 6:16; 2 Corinthians 9:13; 10:5-6; 1 Peter 1:2; 14; 2 John 6

5. The Enemy wants to remind you of the failures of your past, God wants to bring you to the victories of your future; the battle is in the present. But God is God and Satan is not!

...Jeremiah 29:11; 31:34; Hebrews 8:12; Isaiah 43:25; 38:17; Hebrews 10:17; Romans 4:8

6. Clarity for the journey ahead requires decisions about the hills we are prepared to die on, the hills God leads us to bleed on, and the hills we aren't to climb at all – they may be someone else's hills to die on or bleed on.

7. The world wants us to determine our destination before we engage the journey. In God's economy, He wants us to engage the journey and leave the destination(s) to Him. If we do so He will take us to mountain tops we have never climbed, the valleys we have never accessed, and to vistas we have never

seen. Life is full of destinations along life's journey.

8. Satan is a created being of super intellect but not having attributes possessed only by God – omnipotent (all powerful), omnipresent (all present), and omniscient (all knowing). Satan has the benefit of observing mankind for centuries becoming an able interpreter of man's behavior and underlying motives for such behavior. He can predict our weaknesses based on observing how we live our lives. Satan cannot read our minds. He can, however, sow a thought in our minds. If He could read our minds, why would he have asked God to remove his protection of Job so that he could prove that Job would abandon his faith? Why would he have tempted Jesus in the desert if he already knew how Jesus would respond?

9. Effective godly leadership flows from being, is a matter of the heart, is primarily character-centered and secondarily skill-centered. Skills are the tools of effective leadership; character is the power of effective leadership.

10. Lasting behavioral change that brings glory to God begins with the heart in general and our core belief system in particular. Satan's battlefield has always been the heart. What we store in our hearts will evidence itself in our behavior. Our central beliefs establish our core values, our core values inform our worldview, our worldview conditions our motives, and our motives energize our behavior.

...1 Samuel 16:1-7; Proverbs 4:23; Acts 13:22; John 8:31-32; Hebrews 4:12; 8:10; 1 Corinthians 4:5; Matthew 12:34-35; James 2:14-26; Psalm 51:10

11. Authentic spirituality is a prerequisite for godly leadership and is produced when we tune our lives to God's standards of excellence. Its vitality comes from living our lives for an 'Audience of One.'

12. Effective godly leadership is developed over a lifetime, is exercised through our God-given passion and giftedness, finds its source and authority in God, is built on Biblical principles and values and is practiced in culturally sensitive ways.

13. The only legacy worth leaving is the godly legacy we live out daily and leave in the lives of others. Legacy is the sweet-smelling aroma that lingers in the lives of others long after we're gone from this earth...Titus 2:11-14

14. We are not a mistake, a happenstance, or a coincidence. We were on the heart of God before we ever came to be. He superintended our formation in our mother's womb. He determined how many days we would live on the earth. He identified a unique purpose for each of our lives in advance. ...Psalm 139:1-18; Ephesians 2:10

15. Values are the hills we will die on, the principles we will live by; the filter through which we process all decisions of consequence.

16. Our perceptual attitudes about life – our worldview is established, informed, and condition by the beliefs we hold and the values we embrace.

17. We are called to be IN the world but not OF the world so we can minister TO the world in the facilitation of God's redemptive purposes. We are sojourners, aliens, and strangers in a foreign land. Our citizenship is the Kingdom of God. We are ambassadors of that kingdom

to a lost world. We are to represent our Lord and Savior within our sphere of influence. Our temporary abode is this world. Never forget to WHOM you belong, to WHERE your allegiance lies, to WHAT you are called to be, to HOW you are to live your life, to WHEN you are to make your stand, to WHY you are called...Philippians 3:20-21; 1 Peter 2:11-12; Romans 12:2; 1 John 2:15-17; James 4:4; 2 Corinthians 5:20; Ephesians 4:1; Hebrews 3:1; 2 Peter 1:10

18. A vision received from God is verified when it is confirmed and affirmed by others. Otherwise, it is simply a dream; a balloon full of air giving the semblance of substance but having no volume whatsoever. Vision doesn't come by committee. God seeks out a person and inspires infuses that person with a picture of a preferable future. But the validity of the vision must be confirmed and affirmed by others and/or events. Otherwise, it is simply a dream...Habakkuk 2:2-3; Proverbs 29:18; Joel 2:28; 1 John 4:1; Jeremiah 23:16; Acts 2:17

19. If I could follow you around for a few weeks without your knowledge and simply observe your behavior I could predict with a great deal of accuracy what you truly believe and value. I wouldn't need to hear what you say; only observe how you live. We can only live a contrived persona for a time before we ultimately fall back to our true persona. It takes a great deal of energy to live a life not really our own. Who we truly are at the core will emerge when our strength wanes trying to portray someone we are not. The beginning of life-changing transformation starts with an honest appraisal of who we truly are when all our defenses are dropped. The road to a transformed life begins with an accurate assessment of reality.

20. We can only live a falsehood for a season the length of which depends on an individual's will and strength. But eventually, man will revert to his true self and betray who he truly is at the core, for good or for bad. He cannot keep up appearances indefinitely. If you were to clinch your fist and hold it with all your strength sooner or later, you would loosen your grip because you can't hold it for an indefinite amount of time. Your grip would eventually assume its natural relaxed state. Same is true of living a falsehood.

#### OPERATIONAL BELIEFS FOR MEN

I am to aim my life at righteousness and godliness (1 Tim 6:11).

I am to abstain from immorality (1 Thess 4:3-8).

My life should be an act of worship to God (Rom 12:1-2; Col 3:17).

I am to put to death what is earthly in me (Col 3:5-10).

My thoughts should be honorable and pure (Phil 4:8).

I am to put on the whole armor of God (Eph 6:10-18).

#### OTHER NEWS



Heart of a Warrior Ministries offers four journeys you can take to become who God created you

to be.

**Foundations of a Warrior** (Ground Zero) helps establish strong biblical foundations for the battles ahead.

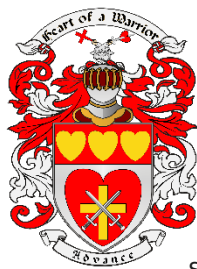
**The Compass** (Phase I) calibrates a warrior's heart and tunes that heart to the heart of God.

**The Map** (Phase II) helps men focus on what matters in accordance with their unique divine wiring.

**The Guide** (Phase III) develops the spiritual discipline of being mentored and mentoring others.

Go to our website for more details.  
[www.heartofawarrior.org/journeys/](http://www.heartofawarrior.org/journeys/)

If you would like to contact me directly, email me at HOAWMinistries.com.



#### Donations

Please consider giving to Heart of a Warrior Ministries. HOAW Ministries needs your financial support. Our ability to help men live God-honoring lives depends on the resources we can use to that end. Simply go to the donations tab on [heartofawarrior.org](http://heartofawarrior.org). Thank you for being a subscriber.

Check out **The Store** on our website ([www.heartofawarrior.org](http://www.heartofawarrior.org)). There are downloadable resources you can use to lead a group through Phases I, II, or III, Foundations of a Warrior, and Bible Study Guidelines.

#### Websites for Men

##### Legacy Minded Men

[www.legacymindedmen.org](http://www.legacymindedmen.org)

Heart of a Warrior Ministries

[www.Heartofawarrior.org](http://www.Heartofawarrior.org)

Church for Men

<http://churchformen.com/>

Resolute

<https://beresolute.org/>

Life Way Men

<https://blog.lifeway.com/leadingmen/>

Men's Fraternity

<http://www.mensfraternity.com/>

Man in the Mirror

<http://maninthemirror.org/>

Men with No Regrets

<http://www.menwithnoregrets.org/>

National Collision of Men's Ministries

<http://ncmm.org/>

Every Man's Battle

<https://newlife.com/emb/>

Iron Sharpens Iron

<http://ironsharpensiron.net/>

Ransomed Heart Ministries

<http://www.ransomedheart.com/>

Band of Brothers

[www.bandofbrothers.org/](http://www.bandofbrothers.org/)

Man Up God's Way

<http://www.manupgodsway.org/>

Iron Works

<http://www.ironworksmen.com/>