

GIBBORIM QUEST

In light of the cultural confusion regarding the roles of men and women, we desire to provide an intentional process by which the boys of our church will discover and embrace the biblical ideals of manhood. We call this journey "**GIBBORIM QUEST**."

The word "gibborim" is the Hebrew word for *hero, champion, valiant warrior, mighty man*. It is the word used for David's mighty men. We want to raise our boys into mighty men for Christ, men who have a clear sense of their God-given masculine identity.

Eventually, **GIBBORIM QUEST** will cover three stages of development, stretching from eleven years of age to twenty-one years of age. Each stage will involve active, adventurous experiences designed to impress our boys with specific aspects of their masculine identity. These will include values like: friendship, truth, faith, physical toughness and tenacity, adaptability and adventure, honor, leadership, loyalty, sexuality, gratitude, humility.



The purpose of male adolescence is to activate in the male the ideals of manhood, ideals to which he will commit, by the end of the lessons, to follow the rest of his life.

Michael Gurian



The primary means of raising boys into godly men is by surrounding them with godly masculinity through mentors, stories, adventures and ordeals, and directed rites of passage.



- ✗ Strategically planned special events, usually outside, adventure oriented.
- ✗ Rites of Passage at critical junctures.
- ✗ Symbols as reminders of masculine qualities.
- ✗ Parent workshops on each stage of development.



STAGES IN BECOMING A MAN

STAGE 1: (11-13 years)

- ✗ **Friendship**—recognizing their importance and choosing wisely
- ✗ **Truth**—God's Word as the compass for life
- ✗ **Faith**—what it means to trust God
- ✗ **Adventure**—physical activity, the outdoors, risk and reward

RITE OF PASSAGE #1

STAGE 2: (14-17 years)

- ✗ **Leadership**—courage, responsibility, initiative
- ✗ **Loyalty**—the fundamental virtue of relationship
- ✗ **Honor**—moral character and strength (particularly regarding sexuality and honesty)
- ✗ **Emotional expression and control**
- ✗ **Toughness and Tenacity**

RITE OF PASSAGE #2

STAGE 3: (18-21 years)

- ✗ **Grace/Gratitude**
- ✗ **Humility**
- ✗ **Kindness and compassion**
- ✗ **Freedom**
- ✗ **Finances**
- ✗ **Discovering their unique Gifting and Mission in life**



It is the role and duty of the church, working in harmony with the boy's natural family, to be a place that produces men, is attractive to men, and celebrates godly masculinity.

Rick Bundschuh